

THE  
MOST PLEASANT  
Historie of Ornatus  
and Artesia.

Wherein is contained the vniust Raigne  
of *Theon* King of *Phrygia*.

Who with his sonne *Lenon*, (intending *Ornatus*  
death,) right Heire to the Crowne, was after-  
wardes slaine by his owne Seruants, and  
*Ornatus* after many extreame mi-  
series, Crowned King.



LONDON  
Printed by Thomas Creede. 1607.



To the right vvorshipfull,

Brian Stapleton of Carleton, in the Countie of Yorke Esquire, the heauens graunt  
*health, content, and after life, euerlasting happynesse.*



His vnpollisht Historie Right worshipping, wanting the Ornament of Eloquence fit for rare inuention, presenteth it selfe in his naturall and selfe expressing forme, in well applied words, not in tedious borrowed phrases: wherein neither the lewde can finde examples to sute their dispositions, the vertuous no tearmes to discontent them, nor the well affected any cause of offence. Here shall you see lust Tyrannizing, auarice, guilty of murther, & dignity, seeking his content with vsurpation, yet all subuerted by vertue. Which I am bold to present vnto you, not for the woorth, but to expresse my good will, which is not vnmindfull in some sort to gratifie the manifold curtesies I haue receiued of you. And although it be altogether not worth estimation, and to be accounted no requitall for so many good turnes, yet I desire you to accept the same in steed of a better, and the summe of that which my abilitie at this time can affoord: Which beeing but a fancie, vouchsafe to esteem, though not agreeing with your grauitie, yet (as many both Noble and wise in such like matters haue done) to be red for recreation. As the value of the gift expresseth not the affection of the giuer, nor the outward show the inward meaning, so I trust you will esteeme my good wil, not  
A 3 by

*The Epistle Dedicatorie.*

by the worthinesse hereof, but the qualitie of my well affected intent, which is deuoted vnto you in the bands of perfect good will, and will be readie to shewe it selfe constant in any triall you shall make thereof. And for that I know your wisdom and curtesie to be such, as that you will not misconceiue me, but esteeme well hereof, and my affection to you, to be exprest in the dedicatiō, I haue aduertured to dedicate the same to your protection, though altogether vnderferuing the title of your patronage, which your further kindnesse shall binde me hereafter to requite the same, with some worthier worke collected by my labors. Thus being loth to be tedious and troublesome vnto you, I commit this silly present to your gentle acceptation, and your selfe, to the gracious protection of the Almighty.

*Your Worships most readie  
at command,*

Emanuel Ford,



THE EPISTLE  
to the Reader.



Entlemen, I haue published this Hystorie, at the intreaty of some of my familiar friends, beeing at the first collected with no intent to haue it printed, for as yet hauing taken but one flight, I durst not too boldly venture againe, lest my vnskilfulnesse might cause my repentance. But beeing supported by the assistance of your gentle fauours, I shall grow hardie, & hereafter labour to procure your further delight: the rewarde I expect, beeing your kinde acceptance. But if contrary to my thought, this my summer fruite be gathered before it be ripe, I promise amends with olde fruite, that hath bene a yeare in ripening, and in the beginning of the next winter comming forth. In the meane time, peruse this Historie, which fauoureth more of pleasure, then Eloquence: & although hastily compiled, yet let it passe vnder your fauourable censure: and by your courtesies, be shrowded from the variable dislikes of *Momms* vaine imitators.

The learned, wise, and curteous, will according to the qualitie of their dispositions, esteeme well of this vnwoorthie worke, valuing the same, not by the worth, but by the will of the wryter.

As for such as either rashly condemne without iudgement, or lauishly dislike without aduice, I esteeme them like the downe of Thistles, instantly dispearst with euery blast, accounting their discontent, my content: not caring for to please those that are pleased with nothing.

But did my gaires, counteruaile my labours, I would then frame my fancie to fit their humours, but getting nothing, I can loose no lesse, onely to haue a good opinion of the well affected to learning, is all I craue: and that I hope your good mindes will afford.

## The Epistle to the Reader.

As at a Banquet there are severall kindes of meates, some pleasant, other sharpe, yet all tasted. Amongst Grapes, some sowre, some sweete, yet all esteemed, so with indifferencie, amongst varietie of eloquent Histories, let this serue as one dish to furnish out a Banquet, and like sowre and sweete intermingled, make a pleasant taste, by your courteous construing of my good meaning, and your fauourable opinion of *Ornatus* loue. So shall I account my debt to you great, my labours wel bestowed, and my selfe bound to requite your kindnesse. You shall shewe your affection to learning, vertue in fauouring good indeuours, & giue encouragement to more worthie labours. I rest well contented, my reward rich, and hereafter be both readie and willing to deserue your curtesie. But if *Ornatus* loue breede my blame, as it bred his banishment, then may I wish I had neuer knowne thereof, and crie out of *Mala fortuna*, as my rewarde. With the bird *Celos* bred in *Affrica*, who wandring far from her nest, by forgetfulnesse cannot returne: and so for euer after abandoneth company. So I too boldly building on your curtesie, may bee wounded with repentance, and by my ouersight bee brought in dispaire, vnlesse your curtesie preuent the same: on which my hopes depend. And so I cease.

E. Ford.



# THE MOST PLEASANT Historie of Ornatus and Artesia.

## Chap. I.

How *Ornatus* was enamoured of the faire *Artesia*.



In the rich and renowned countrey of Phrygia, in Prouinces not farre distant from nere neighbourhood, dwelt two auncient knightes, the one named Allinus, the other Arbastus, men of great possessions, and much honoured. Betwixt whome, such extreme contention and hatred remained, by reason of the death of one Renō, brother to Allinus, long since slaine in a quarell by certaine gentlemen belonging to Arbastus, that neither their owne wisdome, nor the sundry persuasions of friendes to eyther partie allied, were of any force to mitigate the same. Both of them being enriched with innumerable blessings, especially in their faire progenie.

Allinus hauing a sonne of goodly stature, and commendable gifts, named Ornatus. And Arbastus a daughter called Artesia, of exceeding comelinesse, exteriorly beautified with abundance of gyfts of nature, and inwardly adorned with abundance of diuine perfections. Yet by reason of their parents discord, they remay-

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ned as farre ignozant in knowledge one of the other, as if they had bin separated by an innumerable distance of straunge countries.

Ornatus aboue all thinges delighted in Hawking, and on a day, being wearie, he wandzed without company with his halowe on his fist, into a most pleasant valley, where hee shadowed himselfe vnder the shadowe of a fust of greene trees, with purpose to rest himselfe, and euen when his eyes were ready to yelde to slumber, hee was reuiued from his drowsinesse, by the noyse of a kennell of hounds that past by him in chase of a stagge, after whome Arbattus and others in his company (though to him unknowne) followed, who being passed by whilst he was in a deepe studie to thinke what they shoulde be, he espied a beautifull damsell entring the same valley, who being somewhat wearie, liking the prospect of that shade full of trees, alighted there, which Ornatus seeing, withdrew himselfe from her sight, whilst shee tying her hood to a bush, laide her delicate booke downe vpon the cooling earth, to breathe her selfe, and drinke her sweet, which she soon accomplished, shee vnbaced her garments, and with a decet and comely behauiour, discovered her milke-white necke & breast, beautified with two round precious teats, to receiue the breath of the coole winde, which was affected with a delight to exhale the moystened vapors from her pure bodie. Ornatus seeing all, and vnsene himselfe, noted with delight each perfect linament of her proper bodie, beautie, sweete fauour, and other comelinesse, which filled his heart with exceeding pleasure, therewith growing into an vnrestrained affection towards her, and a great studie what shee shoulde be, when suddenly his halowe feeling his fist vnumbrable, thinking to pearch her selfe with quiet, pynne her self, and with the noyse of her belles, made Arcellia start, who as one halfe agast, with a fearefull behauiour arose to the ground, looking round about her from whence that sound came, she espied Ornatus (who vnwilling she shoulde perceine he had yet seene her, late as if hee had slept) Arcellia maruelling what he shoulde be, & accordingly springing he had slept, closed her naked breast with great haste, and

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vnloosing her hose, thought to go away vnespied. Which Ornatus perceiuing, and vnwilling without speaking to her to lose her sight, seemed to awake, and raising himselfe, secretly beheld her, which infused such a redbre vermillion blush into her beautifull cheekes, and withall such a bashfull confusion spred it selfe in her conceits, that shee stood like one halfe amazed & ashamed. Which Ornatus perceiuing, drew towards her, and greeted her with these speeches. Faire Damosell, be not abash with my presence, though a stranger, which shall no way if I can chuse offend you, but rather command mee, and I wil be ready to do you any seruice. Artesia notwithstanding his speeches, withdrew her selfe, leading her horse to a bankie, where with ease shee mounted, and so rode away, not giuing him any answer at all. Ornatus maruelled thereat, yet rightlie imputed her vnkinde departure to her feare, not discurtisie. And seeing himselfe depriued of her sight, the night appoaching, departed home to his fathers house. After supper, betaking himselfe to his chamber with intent to rest, he was possessed with such remembrance of the beautifull Damosell he had seene, that his sleepe was transformed into continuall cogitations of her betwix, forme and fauour, and the pleasing sight he had seene in the discovery of some of her hidden beauties, imprinted such a delight in his affectionate conceits, that hee could take no sleepe, but continued all that night in those meditations.

The next day thinking to shake off all further remembrance of her, he gate into company of his most chosen friends, wherein befoze time hee tooke most delight, yet now by reason of his distemperature, hee rather seemed weary thereof. Hee had not continued long with them, but he was saluted by a gentleman named Phylastes, with whome he was familiarly acquainted: this gentleman belonged to an auncient Duke named Turnus, who in honour of his birth day, from which Allinus excused himselfe of purpose, because he thought hee shoulde moue Arbattus there, but because the Duke shoulde take no offence at him, hee graunted that his sonne Ornatus should goe to see him honour.

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which Phylastes acquainted Ornatus withall, who glad therof, departed thither in companie of diuers other gentlemen: the Duke likewise had sent another messenger to request Arbastus companion, who being of a more gentle nature then Allintus, willingly went, and with him, his wife and faire daughter Artesia.

## CHAP. II.

How Ornatus came to knowledge of Artesia, & intreated Adellena to make knowne his loue to her, and of the rebuke Artesia gaue her.



After the feast was ended, and the Duke had honoured his guests with all manner of curtesie, hee the principallest, amongst whom Arbastus was one of the chiefe, according to the custome vled in that countrey, seated themselves to behold certaine games and exercises to be performed by the young Gentlemen: which was, running, wrestling, and diuers other exercises, for triall of the strength, and nimblenesse of the bodie: amongst the rest, Ornatus (having neuer before made triall of himselfe) had such good successe, and behaved himselfe with such agilitie and strength, that he wonne the chiefest honour, and was presented before the Duke, to receiue a rich reward.

Which when hee had receiued, casting his eyes vpon the beholders, hee espied Artesia whome hee perfectly knewe againe, ready to depart with her parents, who had bidden the Duke farewell. Ornatus comming to Phylastes, asked if he knew that damosell, shewing him Artesia, who tolde him what shee was. Ornatus was glad of that small knowledge, which could adde little meanes to his hopes, yet somewhat discontented that shee was daughter to Arbastus. And thus the day being ended, eury one departed to their abodes.

Ornatus hauing againe attained his chamber, spent his time of rest in sundrie cogitations of his loue, and howe to giue her knowledge

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knowledg of his affection, noting eury danger, and pondering how discontentedly his parents would take the same, if it should by any meanes come to their knowledge, finding so many lettes to hinder him, that hee was oftentimes in bitter dispaire of attaining to the least hope of good successe. But finding his affections to increase more and more, and burning with a seruent desire, which nothing but onely her fauour could extinguish.

After that night was past, earlie the next morning hee wandred towarde the place where hee hadde behelde her with such exceeding content, and by the way as hee went, hee met with a gentlemoan named Adellena, of meane birth, and small huing, yet of good education, who oftentimes reioiced to Arbastus house, and was going thither at that instant, into whose company hee insinuated himselfe, so that hee saue her alone, and said as followeth,

Gentlewoman, I am bolde to intreat a word or two with you. Sir replied she, with a good will, I will satisfie you in what I can. Know you not (quoth he) Arbastus? She quoth she, both know him, and am very well acquainted with him, vnto whose house I am now going. So would I quoth hee if I durst, for I serue Ornatus, sonne to Allintus, towhome I doe not doubt but you know well, of whom I would tell you more, but that I feare to commit his secrets to them I knowe not, and thereby unwittingly doe him iniurie: but would you vouchsafe but to heare them, keepe them secret, and withall adde your helpe to further him, which you may with safetie performe, you should doe him an exceeding pleasure, and withall, bee so highly rewarded, and thankfully gratified, that you should thinke your labour very well imployed: doe a vnde of pittie, and binde him to you in the perpetuall bands of kinde friendship.

Sir replied Adellena, I knowe not the Gentleman, yet I haue heard him much commended, in whome if I coulde any way pleasure, I would vse both diligence and secrecie, promising you vpon my faith and credit, if you will

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will make mee acquainted with your minde, I will either do my good will to further him, or else conceale what you shall commit to my priuie.

When said he, my maister not long since walking in yonder valley, beheld Artesia, faire Artesia, daughter to Arbastus, to whose beaultie he is exceedingly intyalled, that vntlesse some meanes of comfort be found to ease his torments, I feare mee it will inuadenger his life: whom you onely may pleasure, by making his loue knowne to her, in such sort as shall best agree with your wisdom. This is all, and yet so much, that the revealing thereof may do much harme. And to eff. a such a contract, might procure peace and vntill twixt their parents. Wherefore I intreate your aide and furtherance herein: with which good netwes, if I returne to him, I knowe it will breed no little comfort to his disquiet heart.

Sir (said she) since I perceiue his loue is grounded vpon vertue, not drawne thereto by any desire of reward. I undertake to be his assistant therein, and will to the uttermost of my best intentions labour to procure his content: which this day I will in some sort put in execution. And if you returne to mee to morrow, you shall knowe her answers. I wil said he, and so they departed.

Ornatus hauing left her, entered into many cogitations of his rash attempt, accounting himselfe over credulous to commit his secrets to her priuie, of whose fidelitie he had neuer made tryall: sometimes comforting himselfe with hope of good euent, and againe despairing of comfort, so that he supposed Artesia would rather esteeme him as an enemy then a friend, by reason of their parents hatred, and therefore would the more hardly be drawne to giue any credit to his sute. And resoluing a chaos of these and such like confused cogitations, he attained his fathers house, thinking the time tedious vntill his appointed meeting with Adellena: which he overpast with great care. Adellena after her departure from him, came attained to Arbastus house, vising herselfe as she had formerly done, yet withall, carefull how to execute the charge she had in hand, which she could by no occasion utter,

till

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till after dinner when she found Artesia all alone in the garden, insuaded her self into her company, which Artesia kindly accepted, entering into varietie of discourses, and continuing some time in giuing certaine hearbes their proper names: amongst the rest, Artesia eyled an hearbe with partie coloured fringes, demanding of Adellena if she knewe the name thereof, which she told her she did not. I haue oftentimes quoth Artesia seene this hearbe, and it hath two prettie names, it is by some called Loue in Idleness, and by some Parts Case: with that Adellena fetcht a deepe (though counterfeitt) sigh, which Artesia noting, said: What maketh you sigh to heare it named Parts Case? Mary (quoth she) one way because those two names so ill agree, an other, so by the same I call to remembrance the hearts grieve I heard a young man complain of procured by loue, which was not in Idleness, but I think in good earnest. Why quoth Artesia, can loue procure such hartes grieve to any, and not rather content? Yes said she, because the partie in loue, hath no hope to attaine the good liking of the partie he loueth. Whē quoth Artesia, I account him a fool that will loue so dauple without hope of reward: and that to be rather fondne then true friendship, that pleaseh his affections with such inequalities. But I pray tel mee what is he into whose secrets you were so suddenly admitted? Not admitted (quoth she) for vnawares I heard his complaints, which afterwarde I promised him not to make any acquainted withall, but the partie whome he so intierly loueth. When quoth Artesia, I may not know, neither doe I care, for it is but a vanitie that troubleth ones cogitations. Yes quoth she, you may and shall if you please, know who he is, conditionally you will neither be offended with me for telling you, nor reueale what I shall impart. Why quoth she, am I the pretie, or doth it in any way concerne me, that I should be offended? If it be, then keepe your counsels vnrerucaled, for it will proue vnseasonable to my stomacke, for be it far from me to be troubled with the vaine sutes of doing louers. Yet let me answer quoth Adellena, you heare too græuous a conceit of loue, which is the diuine puritie wherby heartes are vnited in vertue. Without the which, neither mortals can attaine heauen, nor other creatures haue their being:

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therfore not to be abhorred: and so that any shoulde loue your selfe, can that be an offence to you, but rather be accepted in kinde so: & two shoulde by nature loue them that loue vs, then will you contrarie to nature, yeld hatred for loue? For you indeed are the partie that is beloued, and the partie that is so farre in loue with you euery way to be commended, & one way discommended, whose name I will not reueale, & then I hope I shall haue no offence to your eares. Doe so quoth Artesia, for in concealing the same, you please me, & if you will be welcome into my company, vse no more of these speeches. Had I thought quoth she, they would haue bin offences, I would not haue uttered them, but in so doing, I did but fulfill your request: then at my request againe quoth she, giue over. After this communication ended, they parted, Adellena home to her house, and Artesia to her supper, and afterwards to her chamber, where at first, some colde thoughts of those speeches past in her fancie, but afterwards she spent the rest of that night in quiet sleepe.

## CHAP. III.

How Adellena coueied Ornatus letter into Artesias Casket, and with what impatiencie Artesia tooke the same.



The morning being newly approached, Ornatus who had long expected the same, arose and sone gate to Adellenas house, where he arrived before she was up, who hauing knowledge thereof, sone came downe to him, (taking him to be no other then Ornatus man) to whome she declared the very truth of all her speeches hadde with Artesia. Which nipt him at the heart, but being put in some hope by her perswasions, at last giuing her a purse full fraught with Gold in recompence of her paines past, and to entice her to undertake more, hee saide as followeth.

Good Adellena be not dismayed to prosecute my sute for Artesias still srowne, for I am not Ornatus man, but poore Ornatus himselfe,

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himselfe, that languish with desire to attaine her loue, which I would my selfe prosecute, if the discords betwixt our parents did not binder the same. Wherefore I beseech you once againe do something in my behalfe, for you see how cruell destiny hath shut mee from all meanes to be put in practise by my selfe, and you may pleasure mee without any hazard at all: for which I will rest so thankfull vnto you, as that you shall account your paines taken wel bestowed.

She replied she, I would undertake any thing to further you, if I knew which way, but I perceiue Artesias srowardnesse is such, that nothing I shall bring her will be welcome: but if you will aduise mee what I shall do, I will once againe hazard the losse of her good liking for your sake. Which saide, Ornatus wrote a Letter, which hee desired her by some meanes to conuey to her sight, the contents whereof were these.

To the faire Artesia,

Fairest of creatures, bee not offended with my boldnesse, but rather fauourably censure of my good meaning: for being bound to honour none but most vertuous, I thought it my dutie to giue you knowledge thereof, desiring you to pittie the extremitie of my passions, procured by the attainture of your conquering perfections. I confesse you may alledge many things as reasons, to dissuade you from giuing credit to my speeches, or yeelding me the least fauour in your conceits: yet I beseech you, make but triall of loyalty, loue, and dutie, so farre as shall agree with your liking, and you shall finde mee constant in the one, and perseuerant in the other, as one that hath submitted himselfe to your commaund, vowed his deuotions to purchase your fauour, and euerlastingly bound himselfe to be onely yours: vnable to expresse my humble meaning: vnwilling to be offensive, and desirous of fauour: then I beseech you be fauourable to me, though bearing the name of an enemy, in whom you shall finde the true heart of a constant

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constant friend, whose safetie, comfort, and preservation, resteth in your power. The first viewe of your bewties (which was in the valley when you were last hunting) surprised my heart with such humble regard to your vertue, that ever since my heart hath indured the bitter torments of fearful dispaire, which vrgeth me to this presumption, desiring from your sacred lippes to receiue my sentence of comfort, or affliction, rather then to spend my life in languishing vnreuealed torment. Then be you gracious to him, that is otherwise most miserable, and shewe fauour to an vnderferuing vnknowne friend, so shall you not onely shewe that you are mercifull, but also saue a miserable louer from vtter ruine,

*Your humble friend*  
Ornatus.

Adellena hauing receiued this Letter, tolde him shee would deliuer the same, which the next day shee perfozmed in this sort: Being come to Arbastus house, shee continued most part of the day in Artesias company, not once reniung the least remembrance of the talke shee had with her the day befoze, but espying her open her Casket wherein shee put her woorkes, whilst Artesia was busie, shee priuily conueyed the Letter vnseene into the same, which by and by Artesia locked, soz none but her selfe had the vse thereof.

Adellena thought long till she was gone, fearing least Artesia should vpon some occasion open the Casket againe, and so find the Letter, whilst shee were there, therefore shee soone founde means to depart. When the time of rest was come, and Artesia alone in her bed, taking a booke (accozding to her vsuall manner) to reade a while, shee suddenly fell a sleepe, and in her sleepe was possessed with a dreame, wherein her thoughts called to remembrance Adellenas speeches, which moued such a disquiet conceit of anger in her bzeist, that thinking shee had chid her, with the motions of her sprites shee awaked, feeling an exceeding dis-

temperature

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temperature in all her parts, and seeing the light still burning, shee marvelled at her owne sinne that had befoze sozgate to put the same out, and by this means called to remembrance Adellenas speeches, maruelling what shee should be that was in loue with her, and suddenly againe, reproving her selfe soz giuing her mind libertie to think of loue, shee would haue banisht al further remembrance thereof out of her minde, but the more shee laboured, the more vnable shee was to preuaile in ouermastring her fancies, that being both vexed with her selfe, and Adellena, shee vttered these speeches.

What disquiet is this possesseth my heart, procureth such vnwonted cogitations to rise in my fancies, and disturbeth my rest? I was not wont to trouble my thoughts with such vaine cogitations, which the more I labour to suppress, the more they encrease.

Could Adellenas speeches haue such force (which I had welnigh sozgotten) as thus long to sticke in my remembrance? What reason haue I to regard them that were not worth the regarding? but rather tended to demonstrate the affection of some ouersond louer, that seeketh to intrappe my chastitie? Accursed be her lippes soz vttering them, and would to God I had bene deaft that I might not haue heard their inchaunting sound.

This saide, shee catcht by her Woke, thinking by reading to vayne away all remembrance thereof, but her heart was so fully possessed with a kinde of cogitation what shee should be, that shee neither coulde reade, or when shee did reade, remember what shee did reade: and finding this meanes not auailable, shee started from her bedde, opening her Casket to take out her sampler, wherein shee tooke most delight, when suddenly shee espied the Letter, and reading the superscription, was halfe astonished thereat, especially howe it should come there, and what the contents should be, being oftentimes in minde to teare the same in peeces and not to reade it, which her heart would not suffer her to do befoze shee had seene what was the contents: yet striving to ouermaster her affections, shee tooke the same

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in the mist: which done, such a remorse rose in her fancie, vnticed with a desire to know further thereof, that leaping into the bed, she closed the same together, and betwixt a willing and unwilling minde, redde the same throughout. With that, fetching a deepe sigh, she said: Age me poze soule, how are my affections betrayed to mine enemy? Was it Ornatus she ment? can it bee that hee will proue my friend, that is my pposessed enemy? No: hee intendeth nothing lesse then loue, but rather vnder colour thereof, seeketh my ruine. Was it hee that I beheld in the valley? or it is possible that hee should bee so deeply in loue with mee vpon that small sight? No, no, I wil not credit his speeches, but will repute him as an enemy, as indeed hee is: and henceforward abandon Adellenaes company, by whose meanes this Letter was conveyed into my Casket: then tearing the same into a thousand peeces, she abstained (so neare as she could) from all thought of yielding the least consent to loue, and sought to increase her disdain, and suspect of his falshood, spending the rest of that night in confused contrarieties of doubtful thoughts. Early in the morning she gat vp, and within short time met with Adellena (who was come as desirous to know what issue her deuise had taken) and finding occasion fitte when none was by, she uttered these speeches.

Adellena, I marvel what follie ruleth your minde, that you (whom I had thought had bene veritaously ginen) should take my ruine: wherein haue I shewne my selfe so unkinde, that you should requite me in this discourteous sort? You remember the speeches past betwixt vs the other day in the Gardein, when I finding out your intent by your speeches, desired you to giue over to vse any moze talke to that effect, which you faithfully promised, but now most unfaithfully haue broken, and moze impudently haue betrayed my quiet with your disquiet & ill sounding news: If your rudenesse had bene such that you could not resist, you might then haue deliuered Ornatus false and fained inchantment into my hands, and not so secretly haue conveyed the same into my Casket, wherein you haue made me amendes for my loue.

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loue, to sake to betray my life into the hands of mine enemy: for otherwise I neither can nor will esteeme him. Wherefore henceforward come no moze into my company, for I will weare your familiaritie, hate your counsell, and will cause my father to banish you his house, and alienate his friendship from you for euer.

Adellena would haue answered, but Artesia refusing to hear her, departed, and left her so much grieued, that for extreme vexation, she immediately departed towards her owne house.

## CHAP. IIII.

How Ornatus despairing, left his fathers house, and disguising himselfe, was entertained of Arbastus.



Ornatus desirous to heare how Artesia had accepted his Letter, came to Adellenaes house, and found her weeping for anger, desiring to know the cause thereof, which she declared to him at large, which wrought such an exceeding passion of griefe in his mind, that without yielding her either thanks for her paines or other speech, hee departed: being so much overcome with inward sorrow, that finding a solitarie place, hee laide himselfe downe vpon the earth, uttering these lamentations.

O miserable creature, what haste thou to do but lament when thy ill fortune yields nothing but cause of lament? Why shouldst thou life last to endure these tormentes, and not rather to dissolve into vnknown essences? Could any thing haue happened to mee moze miserable, then to beholde Artesia, and now to endure her crueltie? or moze fortunate, if shee had bene mercifull? But my Descentes haue dwelt me to like her that hateth mee, and to become thus to a cruell unrelenting enemy. Well, my loue is sweeter then my life, and therefore I wil venture life and all to purchase her liking.

Having said this, hee a while sat silent, when suddenly to sa-

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nour his extremities, he behelde certaine of his familiars passe by, with whom he departed home.

Early the next morning (being exceedingly troubled in minde and impatient of delay) he left his fathers house to visite Adellena againe, whom he had the day before left so unkindly, whom he founde ready to goe to Arbastus house againe: saluting her, saide: Adellena, be not offended at my last unmannerly departure, for my hearte was so muche disquietted at the ill successe my sute tooke, that I could not vse that behaviour towards you your paines deserued, but now I am returned to craue your counsell what is further to be done herein.

She replied that, I know not what further meanes to vse, neither dare I any more attempt to trie Artessias curtesie, who is already so much offended with me, that I feare to lose her friendship for ever, if I should bitter that againe that is so unwelcome to her.

Ornatus hearing her speeches, thought she was unwilling to prosecute his sute any further, with a heauie hearte left her, entering into many thoughts and cogitations which way to comfort himselfe. Oftentimes utterly despairing, and yet purposing to leaue no meanes vntried, nor danger vntattempted, though with hazarde of his life to purchase some rest to his troubled heart.

At length he thought with himselfe what should make Artessia so hard hearted as to giue no credit to my speeches: it is not her want of lenitie, pittie, or wisdome, for she is young, and therefore subiect to loue: beuotfull, and therefore to be wonne wise, and therefore will with consideration pittie my sorowes. What then should alienate her good liking from me, more then from an other? Shee saies: for by that she reputeth me an enemy: then were I not Ornatus, she would peraduenture giue some regard to my sute. Therefore I will change my name, and be an other then I am, that she not knowing me, may (if not loue me) yet dist like to hate me: then beganne he to studie what

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what meanes to vse to enjoy her sight (without the which he could not liue) and yet not be knowne what he was. Amongst many other deuises, this tooke best root. Within selue dayes after (hauing prouided all things necessary) he attired himselfe like a virgin of a strange Countrey (which he might well be esteemed to be by his youth.) And taking with him his Lute, whereon he could play exceedingly well, in the silent of the night he departed towards the sea coast, which was neare vnto Arbastus house: and seating himselfe vpon the Rockie shore, beganne to play vpon his Lute. Early the next morning, a shepheard happened to passe by that way, and espying his strange disguise, and hearing his sweete Musick, was so exceedingly delighted therewith, that he stayed to see what he was.

Ornatus turning himselfe about, espied the olde man stand gazing vpon him, wherewith he drew towardes him, and saide as followeth.

Good Father, muse not to see me in this vnfrequented place, being by shipwreck cast on this shore, and preserued from a grieuous death by sea, to perishe for want of comfort on the land, in a strange place, where I neither haue friends, nor know which way to get comfort. Wherefore I beseech you, yeld comfort to my distresse, and succour to my want. Faire Damosell quoth the shepheard, if my homely Cottage can yeld you any comfort, so please you to accept thereof, it shalbe at your command, whither so please you go, without more circumstance of speeches, you shall be most hartly welcome. I thanke you quoth Ornatus, and I accept your gentle proffer: so they departed together. And when they were entered, and the shepherdesse in the best manner she could had welcomed him, and he had tasted of such food as was set before him, he tolde them his name was Syluia, and telling a tale of sufficient countenance to beare credite of the manner of their shipwrecke, and the cause he vndertooke that voyage by sea. Which the olde folkes believed: Likewise framing himselfe to such a kinde of behaviour, that it was almost impossible to discerne but that he was a woman in vnder.

where-

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Where Syluia (wh) vnder that name he shall a while passe) staid some two daies, yet without any hope how to enioy Artesias company. But the third day it fortuned Arbastus being abroad hunting, was by a violent storme driven to seek shelter, and most fortunately lighted on the Shepheards Cottage, where he boldly entered without calling, and suddenly esping Syluia, was halfe astonisht to beholde a damosell so bewittfull and richly attired in that homely place, but after that he had a while blessed her well, (Syluia being alone) with a courteous behaviour he thus spake.

Faire damosell, pardon my boldnesse, if I haue disquietted you, I little thought to haue found such guestes in this homely place. Syluia knowing him to be Arbastus, arose, but made him no answer: when presently the olde Shepheard came in, vsing great reuerence to Arbastus, who demanded of him, what damosell that was; whereupon the olde man declared all that he knew.

Arbastus then thus said: Damosell, I vnderstand by this Shepheard some part of your misfortunes, which I so much pity, that offer to do any thing reſecth in me to do you pleasure. And for that this homely place is not agreeable to your birth, which may be greater then I can iudge of, let me desire you to accept of such entertainment as my habitation yeldeth, whither you shall be welcome. Syluia being glad of that profer, yet fearing to be discovered by his willingness to yeld, made this answer. Sir, this homely place is best agreeing to my poore estate, being by misfortune brought to miserie: which I am also vnwonted to, so that I know not how to make my hoste amends, desiring rather to liue in this quiet pallasce bope of care, then in places of moze dignitie; but for that I shall be too chargeable to this poore man, and you so earnestly desire me, I will be so bolde as to take your profer, though vnable to be so grateful as I would. Many other speeches past betwixt them, and in the ende they departed towards Arbastus Castle: where Syluia was kindly and willingly entertained, hauing his hearts desire, which was to enioy the

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the sight of faire Artesia.

Ornatus being alone by himselfe, began to meditate of the good successe he had in this attempt, and how fortunatelle all things had fallen out to further him in his loue. But most of all he meruailed how the eyes of all that beheld him were blinded, that they could not perceiue what he was. In these & many such like comfortable meditations he spent some thre or foure dayes, taking most great content in beholding Artesias perfections, that he was moze and moze intysalled in the bands of bound affection, hearing her speech, noting her behaviour, admiring her vertue, commending her curtesie, affecting her beaultie, and imprinting each linament of her diuine forme, in his deuoted affection, with such immouable resolute of constant loyalty, that he did not onely loue her, but also honoꝝ her as an Idol, being by Arbastus admitted her companie, that at all times hee was with her. Artesia likewise tooke no little pleasure in Syluians company, in whom so much curtesie abounded, that every one both liked and commended her.

## CHAP. V.

How Adellena brought newes to Arbastus house of Ornatus suddaine depature. How he naming himselfe Syluius, a long time enioyed her company, and what successe he had in his loue.



Adellena hauing heard of Ornatus depature from his fathers house, and of the exceeding care and grief his parents tooke, fearing least he might by some trecherie be murdered, with which newes the came to Arbastus house, and some published the same, that the newes came to Arbastus hearing, who was exceedingly sole to heare the same, for that hee esteemed well of Ornatus. And now comming into the garden where Artesia was

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was walking with Syluan, she could not withhold her selfe from speaking, but uttered her minde in these words.

Artesia bee not offended with that I say, but rather bee displeased with your selfe, who are the originall of this woe. Ornatus whom you supposed your enemy; though indeede your most faithfull friend, taking your unkind refusal most heavily, and accounting himselfe not worthy to live if you displeased him, eyther hath wrought his owne vntimely death, or despairing to finde fauour at your handes, hath abandoned both this parents, countrey and acquaintance, to liue in exile. What will bee sayd of you when the cause of his sorowes shall be knowne? how may your owne conscience accuse your selfe of hard-heartednesse, that would not yelde pittie to the distress of so worthy, vertuous, & courteous a Gentleman, who for his humble sute, was spitefully disdaind, and his heartie good will, disdainfully rejected? Which cruell deed of yours, no doubt will be one day repayed with the like disdain, where you shall most affraid. I know his loue was firme, constant and immoueable, which maketh me so much the more pittie his estate: I know his meaning was both vertuous & honorable, his birth you know, what vertues abounded in him, all can witnesse: and how hartly he loved you, the heaues can witnesse. Woe Ornatus farewell. Hard was thy hap, to place thy true loue so farre off, where thou receiuest so little reward. Artesia hearing her speeches, could not tell whether she might blame her, or accuse her selfe, sometimes doubting whether she spake this of pollicie to try her, or of truth. Being as ready to blame her selfe, as Adellena, and yet willing to do neither. For she thought if she spake true, she had good cause to say that she did, and her selfe more to be blamed then any. For notwithstanding she had giuen Adellena so flat a denial, yet her conscience knewe, that some sparks of loue were kindled in her brest: That her heart being somewhat oppressed with these thoughts, caused the water to stand in her eyes. Ornatus seeing all this, took no little comfort therat, especially why he perswaded Artesias heart to relent, but for that by his disguise, being known no other then a woman, he kept silence, when saine

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he would haue spake, least he should discouer himselfe. Adellena seeing she had disquieted Artesia, being her selfe full of griefe, and unwilling to vrgo her any farther, departed. And Artesia withdrawing her selfe from Syluians company, into an Arboz, uttered these speeches. And can it be that Ornatus loue was so great, that for my sake he hath done this? Could hee loue her so constantly that was his professed enemy? is loue of such a force, to draw one into these extremities? When may I compare it to the heareb Artas, found in Persia, who being but holden in the hand, causeth a heat through all the bodies lone but entertained in thought, disquieteth all the senses. But why do I conceiue so well of Ornatus, when I know not the truth of Adellenas report: it may be he hath hired her to doe this, and thereby I may be deceiued, yelding to pittie, when there is no cause, and with the bird Akanthos, ready to come at euery call. Admit it were so, I am not bound to saue him, is he not my enemy, & sonne vnto my fathers chiefe foe? What reason then haue I eyther to giue credit to his loue, or her protestation, when both may be sayned? Well I will be aduised before I yelde my selfe to loues intangling baytes, and before I loue, I will know whome I loue. I but Artesia thy fancie yeldeth remourse already, and thy conscience bids thee pittie him because he loueth thee, for loue in a reputed enemy may be as constant and loyall as in an open friend, and an enemy becoming friend, will be the more constant: then what hast thou to do, but make further proofe of his constancie, and finding him true, yelde reward to his desert? Soft Artesia, wade not too far: if he be constant, if hee be loyall, if he loue thee so intirely, if now thou hast made him forsake this countrey, or procure his vntimely death, then is there nothing else to be don for thee, but to pittie his death, and accuse thy selfe of some discourtesie. All this while Ornatus showing himselfe from her sight, by the thicknesse of the greene leaues heard her speeches, to his exceeding comfort, and againe closette withozelw himselfe. Artesia hauing ended her speeches, her hart being oppressed with many doubts, arose and came to Syluan, to whom she said: My minde is much troubled with the newes Adellena told me of Ornatus absence, whom for that you know not, I will tel you what he was.

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Where dwelleth not far hence, one Allinus, that most ally ha-  
telh my father, and al that belong vnto him, whose sonne Ornatus  
was, whome if I should commend, you might thinke me too cruel  
to refuse his loue so vnkindly: onely thus much I wil say of him, he  
was euery way worthy to be beloued, though my fancie coulde  
neuer be brayne to like of him: who vpon what occasion I know  
not, but as Adellena tolde me, made his loue knowne to her,  
which she likewise tolde me of, but I refusing to heare her, answe-  
red her plainly, that I was greatly offended with her, for making  
any such motion: and forbad her for euer to speake of him againe.  
But now this day you haue heard what she hath tolde me, which  
I can hardly beleue to be true, or that Ornatus would be so rash  
without wisdome to enter into such extreames. But if it bee so  
(as I would it were not) it grieueth me for him, and I with that  
I had not refused to heare his loue, though I am not willing to  
yeeld thereto. For I would not haue it said of me, nor my name  
so much blazed, that my crueltie procured him to that extremitie,  
though his wisdome might haue foresene such mischance, and he  
more moderatelly haue tempered his loue.

Ornatus taking occasion said, I neither know the gentleman, nor  
how constant his loue was, but thus much my mind perswadeth  
me, that had not his loue bene great, he would not haue grieued so  
much at your vnkindnesse: but some of this force, that it turneth  
the minde into extreames, or utterly breaketh the heart, which  
force belike it had in him, else would he not haue done himselfe so  
much harme. But it may be (as you say) Ornatus hath not done  
himselfe outrage, but onely abandoning company, liueth in di-  
spaire, and so meaneth to die: which if it bee so, then in my fancie,  
you might do well to let him by some meanes vnderstand that  
you did pittie him & say there quoth Artesia, you must first know  
whether I can do it or no: (or if I should say I pittie with my  
lips, and he not find it so, it would brayn him to more dispaire, and  
therefore I will leaue off to do that, vntill I can finde whether I  
can do so or no.

These her speeches brayn Ornatus into a perplexed doubt  
what

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what to thinke, bring no way assured of her loue, nor yet vicerly  
dispaire thereof, for that her speeches gaue likelihood of both.  
Wherefore he durst not speake too boldly, least she should suspect  
him, but onely rested in good hope to finde comfort, and by other  
meanes to trie her.

When taking his Lute, he began to play so sweetely, as would  
haue rauisht a comfortlesse minde, with great content: to heare  
which harmonie pleased Artesia so well, that when hee left, shee  
would request him, calling him Syluian, to play againe. With this  
he sat playing, Artesia sitting close by his side, fel fast a sleepe, which  
he perceiuing, lest of his play, to surfet himself with beholding her  
sweete betwile, in which hee took such delight, as almost rauisht  
his senses, sometimes thinking whilest she slept, to imprint a kisse  
vpon her sweete ruddie lippe, but fearing thereby to wake her,  
and lose that delightfull contemplation, hee desired, beholding  
each part of her visible forme, which was most diuine, his minde  
was affected with inward supple, what perfections her hidden  
betwiles did comprehend, which his fancie perswaded him, he did  
in conceit absolutely contemplate. When seeing her stirre, he sud-  
dainly catcht his lute againe, stricking his sweete noate, to continue  
her in that slumber, and then againe, laying by the same, to enter  
into his former contemplation. Comparing his delight to exceed  
all heauenly ioy, and wishing though Artesia coulde not loue  
him, yet that shee would alwayes graunt him so to beholde  
her.

When hee had a good while continued in these meditations,  
Artesia awoke, which somewhat grieued him, but when shee be-  
held her betwileous eyes fixed vpon him, he thought himselfe in-  
riched with a heauenly happines, to whome Artesia said, I thank  
the good Syluian, for thy sweet musick hath somewhat eased my  
heart, by this quiet sleepe. What content do they enioy, that  
liue voyde of care, and how happie was I before I heard Orna-  
tus name? With that she arose, and they together went in: when  
night approached (which Ornatus thought too soone come, for by  
that he must lose Artesias sight) euery one betooke themselves

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to their severall lodgings.

Ornatus studying what meanes to use to further his love, wherein he found many difficulties, sometimes in thinking Artesia was in hope neuer to heare of him againe, and sometimes supposing she did pittie him, and being overcome with contrarieties of doubts, he uttered these complaints.

What shuld I do to procure my content, when my miseries are one way great, & my loves as exceeding: when my dispaire exceedeth, and yet aye comfort aboundeth? I enjoy not Artesiaes love, yet she loveth me not: I enjoy her sight, and yet not her sight. I have as much comfort as fills me with ioy, & yet I am desperate with dispaire. How can that be? she loveth me as I am Syluan, but hateth me, because she loveth not Ornatus. Under the name of Syluan, I enjoy her sight, but not as Ornatus, and so am I deprived of her sight. I reape exceeding comfort by beholding her beauty, but I live in dispaire, that shee wold thinke I am if she knew what I were. Although I enjoy many things by being Syluan, yet am I deprived of all comfort, as I am Ornatus. For she deemed him either dead or fled, hath no hope ever to see him, and if I should shew any signe that hee were living or neare, shee wold presently eschew my company: which being as I am, I may enjoy: & thus am I boyd of all meanes of attayning her love, yet living as I am, I shall still enjoy her love. Why Ornatus, thou hast better meanes to give her knowlege of thy love in this disguise, then if thou livedst as Ornatus. Suppose thou shuldest make knowne to her what thou art, thinkest thou shee wold betray thee, considering thou offerest no other behauiour towards her, then that which agreeth with vertue? Or what if shee did betray thee, wert thou not better to indure the greatest extremitie by her don, then pene away with griefe in her absence? Yes Ornatus, in being as thou art, thou art more happy, and therefore waitest thou be in some better hope of comfort. What if shee will not love thee, yet so; thy good will shee cannot hate thee. And though shee know what thou art, shee will rather conceale thee, then betray thee: then try whether she loveth thee or no, but how? Make my selfe knowne.

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knowne.

No. I will write a letter, which I will leave in some place where she may finde it, and so by that meanes I shall see whether shee will love or no. And taking pen Inke and paper, he wrote as followeth.

*To the most vertuous Artesia, the forsaken  
Ornatus sendeth humble greeting.*

W Ereyou but so mercifull as fayre, I woulde not dispaire of pittie. Or were you willing to know my truth and loyaltie, you woulde though not yeeld to my sute, yet pittie mee. I cannot use protestations, nor dissemble griefe: but be you most assured, that what proceedeth out at my lippes, cometh from my heart: extremitie maketh mee overbolde, and dispaire maketh me more desperate, in uttering my minde: I cannot chuse but say I love you, for that I love indeed. I cannot set forth my love with fyled termes, but in plaine truth, protest that my love is constant, loyall, vertuous, & immoueable: and though you hate, I must love: and though you for ever denie to love, yet will I persist in constancie: for the worst I can indure is death: and that my soule already inwardly feeleth. I have forsaken my parents, friends, and all to become acceptable to you: for whilst I was *Allinus* sonne, you did hate me, then I beseech you, now that I am not *Allinus* sonne, nor *Ornatus*, pittie mee. For without your pitie I die, & little can my death profit you: but letting me live, you shall for ever enjoy a faithfull servant, So most vertuous *Artesia*, I commit my cause to your wise consideration.

*Yours inseparablie, neither Ornatus,  
nor himselfe, but your poore  
servant,*

Ornatus

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When hee had written this Letter, and sealed the same, the next morning he laid it in a place of the garden, where he knewe Artesia would walke. And from thence coming to her chamber, he found her ready to go forth.

Artesia welcomed Syluia kindly, and forth they went together, and walking by and downe a pittle while, Artesia espied the white paper, and desirous to see what it was, took it up, reading the superscription, marvelled what the contents shuld be, and how it shoud come there, and turning to Syluiam, see you this letter, it is directed to me, I marvel how it shoud come here, unless it were laid of purpose: well howsoever that was, I will reade the contents, and you shall be partaker of them. When she had reade the same, and well understood that it was Ornatus, at the first she was so exceedingly vexed, that she said: I now perceive, that Ornatus was wiser then I took him to be, for I see he hath committed no outrage upon himselfe, but wisely will trie me first, and if I will not yelde to loue him, what will hee do: marrie returne to his father againe. This is Adellenas doing, and according as I thought they are agreed: she left this letter here, and her may I blame, and not him. For did not she promise him to do it, he would neuer of himselfe attempt it. Syluiam I pray thee counsaile me, what I shoud do herein, for my heart is oppressed with many thoughts, that I will not utter untill I know thy minde.

Syluiam thus answered: since you have given me licence to speake that which my heart thinketh, first I say, if Ornatus loveth according as he protesteth, as no doubt but he doth, you have good reason to pittie him, for that by your owne report, he is every way worthy thereof, which if you do, you shall be sure of a constant friend, preserve his life, and make little betwixt your parents. As for Adellena, if it were her deede, she did but the part of a friend, but it was very unlikely, for that she was not here since yesterday. Neither can I think any man can dissemble so much as to make these protestations, and yet be false. For his

words

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words in my fancie, beare an evident likelihood of truth. Therefore, if I may counsaile you, yelde to that which is vertuous, and in so doing, you shall purchase your owne good, his content, and perpetuall quiet to both your families.

Would you haue mee then (quoth she) yelde to loue mine enemy? How is hee your enemy (quoth Syluiam) when hee loveth you? He is mine enemy, because his father hateth me, how can he loue me? Nay rather (quoth Syluiam) his father not louing you, how can hee chuse but loue you, because he seeth them hate you, that are worthy to be beloued: besides their hatred being unjust, it becometh his vertue the more, to loue those his parents hate: and it is commonly sene, where there is hatred betwixt the parents, the children haue loued most dearly, as in common experience it is sene: haue you not red the Histories of Priamus and Thyse, Romeo and Iuliet, and many other? whose loue was the more constant, by so much the more their parents hatred was deadly.

I remember such Histories (quoth Artesia) but what was the end of their loue, was it not most miserable? I grant it was, (quoth Syluiam) which was procured by their parents crueltie, but not their loue, wherein, notwithstanding, they took such felicitie, that they rather chose to die together then to be parted: which argueth, that the enmity twixt parents, cannot break off loue twixt the children, yet might such tragical euent haue bin prevented by wisdom. But how know I (said Artesia) whether Ornatus loue be so constant or no? Can you haue any greater proofe thereof, then his owne letters, the forsaking of his parents, and liuing peradventure in penurie: but if you doubt of that, once againe trie him. Well (said Artesia) I asked but thy counsaile, but in stead thereof, thou best persuasion: but seeing thou art so forward to do me good, which I hope is thy intent, if thou wilt keep my counsell, thou shalt know both my minde, and what I intend. Assure your selfe (quoth Syluiam) I will rather lose my life then promise unfaithfull. When said she, I confesse to thee Syluiam, that loue hath made entrance into my heart, that I would willingly both

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little Ornatus, and grant him his request: for that with often remembering him, I cannot forget him, neither doth any thought please me, but when I thinke of him. But there are so many slips to hinder our loue, that though I loue him, I shall neuer enjoy him. For should my parents know hereof, they would pyle so warily into my actions, that it were impossible for me once to haue a sight of him, whom I do scarce remember, I haue so seldom seen him. You may (quoth Syluius) both loue him, and enjoy him, and since you haue begun to like of him, he being worthy thereof, and equalling you in affection, increase that loue: I might I but once come to speake with him, I would not doubt but effect all things with such secrets, that you should with quiet enjoy him.

Well quoth Artesia, I commit all to you, my life, for that dependeth on my loue, being willing to do any thing that shall not disagree with modestie. Desiring you to keepe my counsells secret, for to betray them, may in daunger both his and my life.

After many other speeches past betwixt them, Adellena entered the garden. Artesia spying her, at the first thus greeted her. Good-morrowe Adellena, I know not whether I may salute thee as a friend, or as a priuie foe, for that by thy meanes I am brought into bondage.

I pray thee tell mee without dissembling (which I feare mee thou canst do so well) when thou sawest Ornatus? and yet I know thy answer before I aske. Dost thou not know this letter? dost thou not hide it in this garden, that I might find it? bid not Ornatus bid thee to say, that he was departed from his fathers, whilst he layeth at home in thy house? I knowe thy answer will be no: but howe may I beleue that? Dost thou not likewise say he loueth mee when thou knowest the contrarie, and dost but dissemble? If thou harborst any vertue in thee, tell mee the truth and dissemble not: for in doing so, thou shalt greatly content me, discharge thy conscience, and peraduenture doe Ornatus a good turne.

Adellena

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Adellena hearing her speeches, was so astonish at the strangenesse, that for a good while she stood as one senselesse, but at the last, she made this answer. Your demaunders are such, as that I know not how to answer them: but heauen punish mee, if I dissemble. I saw not Ornatus since the time he came to mee, so know how you accepted the letter I conueyed into your Casket. For that Letter I am altogether ignorant therein, neither did I euer see the same before now: I neuer spake with Ornatus, sawe Ornatus, or heard from him since I last gaue him your answer: neither do I know where he is: but this I know, that he is not to be found: but your Gentleman, languisheth in loue, which I dare protest, I queth you most dearly, neither neede you misdoubt that he is absent, or thinke that he is hidden at my house, for it is so true, he hath taken such grace at your unkindnesse, as will I feare me in daunger his life.

I would it were not so, but that he were at my house, then would I counsaile him rather to forget to loue, then in daunger his life thereby.

May I beleue (quoth Artesia) that this thou sayest is true? Heauen let me liue no longer (quoth Adellena) if I dissemble. When (quoth Artesia) should this Letter be conueyed into this garden, but by himselfe? With that the Chrysell teares fell from her eyes.

## CHAP. VI.

Howe Ornatus loue was hindered by the newes of *Arbasius* death. Howe *Florentus* to attaine *Syluius* loue, both confest hee slew *Arbasius*, and intended to poyson *Artesia*.



To augment Artesias feares, a messenger hastily running, came in and brought this newes, uttering the same with a gally countenance.

2

Artesia

# The Historie of

¶ Artesia, heare my tragick discourse, your Father as you know, rode forth this morning to chase the fearefull Wære, who wandring from his company, at last by his long stay was mist, and all of vs coming together, studied amongst our selves, what should be become of him, at last we were commaunded by Floretus your Uncle, to posse seuerall wayes in search of him: whom at last we found most grieuously wounded and dead. Artesia hearing his words, with suddaine græse, fell bowne teate. Which when Syluius perceiued, caught her in his armes, rubbing her pale cheeks, untill shee was reuiued againe. When they conueyed her to her bed, in such extremitie with that suddaine græse, that they feared to lose her life, which exceedingly tormented Syluius to behold. When was there such an vprore in Arbastus house, as al seemed in bitter dispaire, one coniecturing this, an other that of Arbastus death, but all in generall concluding, that it was done by Allinus in reuenge of his brothers death.

Arbastus wife, likewise conceiued such sorrow at this unexpected euent, that with very græse thereof shee dyed. Artesia with both together, was reable to yelde by her latest breath, and had done so, had shee not bene carefullie preserved by Syluius, and Adellena. Who by their counsaile and induements, pacified the extremitie of her perplexitie. This netwes was sone spred into most places of the countrey: but because there was no iust proofe of the murder, there was no great question made thereof: Arbastus hauing neuer a trustie friende to prosecute reuenge. Floretus now tooke vpon him to rule and gouerne all that belonged to Arbastus, as his brother, and sone caused him and his Lady to be woxtly interred, and built a sumptuous monument in their remembrance. Which being ouerpast, he came againe to Artesia, (as in the meane time he had oftentimes done) and finding her very weake, vsed many speeches to comfort her, giuing such as were about her speciall charge, to minister all things necessarie to restore her to her former health: promising to be most carefull of her guard, promising and professing to be vnto her in

Dead

# Ornatus and Artesia.

Dead of a Father.

Syluius all this while was exceedingly grieued in mind to see his lone growne so weake, and in such danger of life, not once forsaking her in all the time of her sickness, but continually comforting her with heartie speeches, carefull tendance, not so much as once departing her chamber, but taking exceeding paines to pleasure her, that shee tooke great comfort in her supposed Syluius, who oftentimes would steale a sweete kisse from Artesias lips, which she permitted, taking the same to proceede from a courteous minde, when Syluius did it of deepe affection: accounting the estate wherein hee liued, to exceed all toys, and his delight past compare, profering many familiarities that Artesia tooke in kind part, which otherwise she would haue refused, had shee knowe whom her companion Syluius had bene. Ornatus marvelled that all this time she spake not of him, which he desired to vrgo her to do, by many occasions: but these extremities had banished all remembrance of him out of her minde: Which exceedingly tormented Ornatus, fearing this delaye would some way turne to his ill. What whereas before time, he was pleasant, merry, and oftentimes would moue Artesia to mirth by his dispozte, now that humour was alienated, and he became continually melancholly and sad, oftentimes when Artesia was from him, getting into a solitary place, to bewaile his hard fate. Which she noted and wondered at, thinking the same had proceeded from being so long absent from his countrey and friends. One day she found her deigned Syluius solitary alone, and coming vniawares, heard her utter these words. Oh how unhappy am I, to loue and not to be beloved.

Syluius elpyng her, left off: to whom Artesia said. Why how now Syluius, are you in loue, can it be, that your mind is attainted with that venomous serpent, that poisoneth the senses, altereth the complexion, & troubleth the head and heart? Shake it off, and cast it out of your sight, for it neuer did any good, but hath brought many to perpetuall miserie.

Since you haue ouerheard me (quoth Syluius,) I must needs

3

confesse

# The Historie of

confesse I am in loue, which doth not any way worke any such effect in me as you speake off, but I take all comfort therein, my senses, heart, head, & all my parts, take exceeding pleasure therein. Why then (quoth Artesia) sit you thus pensively alone, as it seemeth to me bewailing your estate to be in loue? I do not (quoth Syluius) sorrow that I am in loue, but that I am not beloued againe: for being in loue, I haue vowed to liue so euer, and sooner shall end. What hard-hearted man (saide Artesia) is he y<sup>e</sup> knowling you loue him, wil not loue you againe? Such is my hard estate (saide Syluius) that the partie whom I loue, knoweth I loue, and yet carelesly doth hate me: neither am I farre absent from him, but inioy his company, without which, my life would decay. Is he in this house you loue? can it be you are intangled since you came hitther? No (quoth Syluius) I loued before I came hitther. How can that be, when you are a stranger, and cast in this country by shipwacker: eyther you must needs be some other then we take you for, otherwise, these things are impossible. But if you dare put trust in my secrecie, impart your minde to mee: and I promise you I will do the best I can to further your loue. You may do much therein (quoth Syluius) and none more then your self, but I beseech you pardon me for reuealing the same, before you assure me of one thing, which you may do without any harm to your self and be not offended with me if I ask you. Tell me what it is (quoth she) & I will answer you. When (saide Syluius) I wold first know whether you loue Ornatus or no? With y<sup>e</sup> she started saying: Alas me, that name bringeth death to my heart, & thou woundest my soule with griefe, to heare him named. Dost thou thinke I haue cause to loue & not rather aboue al men to hate him: dost thou not see my father lately murthered by him, or some by his appointment, and thinkest thou I can loue so deadly a foe, by whom I am brought to this miserie? No assure thy selfe Syluius, according as I haue said cause I do hate him, as the greatest enemy I haue. Whose very name affrighteth mee with terror, and if thou hadst loued me as I was perswaded thou didst, thou wouldest not haue troubled

# Ornatus and Artesia.

troubled my heart with that ominous name. And yet for all this mischief that he hath done me, dost thou not see how he sued for my loue, and had so much prevailed, that my heart beganne to yield to his sute? With that she pulled out of her pocket the letter, saying: these lines the tokens of his dissimulation, were set down in his villainie: with that she tare them into a thousand peeces. Syluius seeing the same, was reade to faine with griefe, breathing forth a hart burning sigh, said. O how is pure innocencie suspected.

And being reade to say those, was disappointed by Florentus coming, who euen then entred the garden, and finding them out, vsed many curious speeches to the both, especially comforting Artesia. To whom he said. Dear cozyn, since these mishaps cannot be remedied, let wisdome now ouerthrow your passionate sorrow: and with patience remit all further griefe, for things past care are not to be lamented: but now commit the care of your safety to my frustines, y<sup>e</sup> will as tenderly regard your good as mine owne life. Wherefore be of comfort, & whatsoeuer you desire, shall be to y<sup>e</sup> bittermost accomplished. Artesia yielded him many thanks, and so they went in. Artesia being alone by her selfe, could by no means forget what speech she had with Syluius: eyther thinking she did dissemble, or was some other then she seemed: or else that she was in loue with Florentus. When she remembred her speeches, saying. How is innocencie suspected. Which she knew she spake by her accusing of Ornatus: which braue her into many doubtfull cogitations, and troubled her senses exceedingly: but by reason of her little suspect of Syluius disguise, she could not stodge any thing thereof. Syluius likewise not daring to offend her, and louing her so dearly, that hee could not indure to see her disquietted, vsed no more speeches tending to loue, but frequenting her company wherein hee toke his whole selfe, accounting himselfe most happie to line and enioy her sweete presence, being out of hope to attaine her loue, refreshing his heart with many sallaces of sweete delight, in beholding that which she little thought he had noted.

# The Historie of

Many daies continued Syluius in this disguise, in which time, Arbastus death was almost forgotten. And Floretus drawn by Syluius manifold vertues, began exceedingly to affect her, shewing such kinde behaviour towards her, that she suspected that which afterwards she found true: for Floretus concealing his love, felt the flame to burne the more inwardly, and living in that scorching penurie, thought it better for him to manifest his love, then by hiding the same, augment his torment. Assuring himselfe to obtain his desire, for that Syluius was a stranger, far from friends, and without his friendship, like to come to penurie, which he thought would be a meanes of importance to draw her to like of him: besides, he thought that he might do as he list with Artesia, for that she was onely in his custody.

And on a day finding Syluius alone in the garden, comming to her with a humble behaviour, he said as followeth. My deare Syluius, I would gladly offer a matter of an importance, if you will vouchsafe me gentle audience: so it is saye I am of sell, that my heart hath long time been intyalled to your bewtie, which I have refrained to offer, fearing to be refused: but know you how faithfully my heart is devoted to your service, and with what torment I have concealed the same, you would pittie me. My estate is sufficient to maintaine you well, though not so worthily as you deserve: you shall live with me in contented ease, and have so faithful and constant a friend, as no torment nor affliction shall alter.

Wherefore I beseech you, let me receive some hope of comfort by your gentle speeches, which shall expell many cares from my troubled heart.

Syluius had much ado to abstaine from smiling, to thinke how unfit he was to yeeld such a reward as Floretus expected: committing further consideration thereof, to time more convenient, gave him this answer. My minde sir is vnapt to entertaine hope, considering how farre I am from my countrey, and how soon I may be overtaken, therefore I pray you seeke not that

# Ornatus and Artesia.

that at my hands which I will not graunt, but if with your favour I may live so quietly as since my coming I have done, I that thinke my selfe more beholding to you for that, then for your possered love, which I cannot yeelde unto, Floretus thinking her lost answere was a signe she would some yeeld, all prosecuted his suite with earnestnesse, in so much that Syluius tolde him that as yet she could not fance him, because she had no triall of him, but that she would consider further thereof. And so for that time they parted. Floretus in hope to attaine that which was not to be had, and Syluius in hope by this meanes the sooner to attaine Artesias love. First considering that Floretus had the disposing of her, and theretoze he must please him: least otherwise he might be deuyed of her company. When he began to thinke of Arbastus murder, knowing assuredly, that it was not acted by his fathers counsel, but rather by some secret foe, that might as well be Floretus as any other, for that he was the next heire, if Artesia hindred him not: which conceit took such effectuall instance in his fancies, that with that his suspect, beholding Floretus behaviour, countenance, and little inquiry for the murderer, he plainly suspected him, which by the diuine providence, rather then by any evident proofe, was stirred in his opinion. Such murder is neuer bare revealed, and though neuer so closely done, yet God by some extraordinary meanes or other revealeth the same. So came it to passe with Ornatus, although he was no way pryncipall to any such act, or had any probabilitie thereof, yet he thought that Floretus countenance betrayed his treacherie, and therefore he longed to have some conference with him, to see if he could gather the truth, whereby he thought both to discharge himselfe of that suspect Artesia had of him, and also when she sawe his innocencie and constancie, she might yeelde to love him: purposing to leaue no meanes vnattempted to trie him: which he did the next time he spake with him, in this sort.

Early the next morning, Floretus not vnderstandfull of his love which kept him from his sleape that night, neuer left till he had found Syluius, and comming to her, with manifold humble speeches,

# The Historie of

ches, solicited his fate: whom Syluius cunningly handled, still putting him in hope, and yet making him no promise, which set him the more on fire, being so farre ouergone with affection, that he purposely determined either to win her loue, or hazard his owne life, and to leaue no meanes vnattempted, were it neuer so dangerous, to procure his owne content. What the more vnwilling he saw Syluius, the more importunate he grew. At last Syluius sayd as followeth. Floretus I know no reason you haue to bee so importunate, when I see in you no token of shew little: but once hauing attained your purpose, you will esteeme mee as lightly as easily won: besides, I see not wherewith you can perforce any such matter as you promise, for I being in a strange countrey, haue nothing: and you for ought I see, as little: then by matching with you, I shall but bring my selfe to pouertie, and miserie, and then your loue now so hotte, will be as colde: and I as rejected, cast off to bitter miserie. Floretus not suffering her to proceed any further, made this answer. Syluius do you not see Arbastus wealth, will not y<sup>e</sup> bee sufficient: the great possessions I now enioy by him, are of substance to maintaine you in all quiet, and yeld you your heartes content. Arbastus wealth said Syluius, that is Artescias by right, then how can you possesse the same the liuing? Do but graunt me loue, sayd he, and I will quicklye satisfie you in that. I haue a meane to get all into mine owne hands: and therefore I beseech you, let no such matter trouble your minde, but be assured, that in enioying me, you shall haue all happiness and quiet, by my humble, dutifull, and constant loyalty. Do but assure mee of this (quoth Syluius) and you shall knowe my resolution afterwards.

Artelia entring the chamber, brake off their speeches, whose presence vexed Floretus at the heart, being scarce able to speake, by reason of his inward rancor: for indeed hee hated Artelia, because she onely kept him from possessing his brothers liuing: the want wherof, kept him from attaining Syluius loue: therefore he resolved by some meanes to worke her downefall which with in short time he acquainted Syluius withall by this occasion.

Was

# Ornatus and Artesia.

One day finding her alone in a secret place in the garden, after many speeches past betwixt them: whereby hee perceiued the chiefest things that binded him, was his want of wealth, and after that Syluius had in some sort made him a grant (onely to trie him,) he began to offer his intent in this sort. My deare Syluius, I am so well perswaded of your vertue, and put such confidence in your trustinesse, that I will reueale to you the very depth and secrets of my heart, would you but sweare to keepe my counsell: for to purchase your content, I haue determined to put in practise a matter of secrecie, which concerneth my life to be reuealed.

Syluius hearing that, thought it better to sweare a thousand oathes and breake them all, then by nicenesse to indanger the life of Artesia, which she supposed he aymed at promised him by many protestations, to keepe secret whatsoever he tolde her: wherby upon Floretus being with hope to win her loue, and emboldened in mischief, cared not what he did to attain his wil, said as followeth. Syluius, you see Arbastus is dead, which was one stop that kept me from inioying great possessions, and my purpose is, so you will but bouchsafe to ayde me therin, to be ridde of Artesia: and then all that belongeth to her by her fathers death, shall bee yours to dispose of. Syluius heart throbbed to heare his speeches, but determining to list him to the full, said as followeth. Floretus I am sure you speake this onely to trie me, and so intrap me, and not of any intent you haue to perforce me the same, wherein you shall doe me great wrong, and your selfe no good: for I cannot beleue you beare the least thought to do it. By heauen quoth hee, it is my full intent, and for that you may be assured thereof, it was I that slew Arbastus, howsoever the matter is imputed to Allinus, and purpose likewise to be rid of Artesia, onely for your sake.

Therefore make no doubt of my resolution: for I am absolutely purposed to do it. (I thought Syluius) rather shall thou see my blood, then spill one drop of hers: why Floretus would you haue me do any thing therein? For onely may doe it (quoth he) with more safety then any other, and the maner how is this.

¶ 2

With him

# The Historie of

Within some mile from this Castle, Arbastus hath a banquetting house in his Parkes, where oftentimes he would for his recreation be, whether I will perswade Artesia to goe for a season to take the aire, and to recreate her senses dulled with griefe: and none but you to keepe her company, and some two servants whose trustinesse, I am assured of. This done, I will get a drinke to be made, the force whereof, shall expell life, and yet by no meanes nor any cunning or skill be found out, when you shall thinke it most convenient give vnto her: & being once dead, who will make any enquirie, but that she dyed of a naturall sickness: and then you shall be mistresse both of her heritage and my selfe. Syluian said, when shall this be put in practise? Within these two daies at the farthest said he: in the meane time frequent you Artesiaes company, in such familiar sort as heretofore you haue done, and my selfe will vse her with no lesse kindnesse. Many other speeches being past betwixt them at that time, they parted.

## CHAP. VII.

How *Ornatus* told *Artesia* of *Floretus* intent, and vpon what occasion he discovered himselfe.



**F**loretus being by himselfe, began to consider how rashly he had committed his secrets to Syluian, entering into these meditations; Doth Syluian thinke that my politike exceedeth not her shallow capacitie: yee simple straunger, she hath undertaken a matter of great importance for me, that meane nothing lesse then good will to her, she for my loue hath promised to poison Artesia, and is likely that once done, to taste of the same sauce, so loved she me neuer so well, I will not trust her with my life, but peraduenture she hateth me, and will reueale my drift to Artesia. So Floretus thou art

# Ornatus and Artesia.

art deceiued, she is so farre in loue that she doteth, and would I am sure do any thing at my request. What a world is this, what villanie can be intended, that some either for fauour or reward, will not execute? If I should trust her that is so easily wonne to do such a hainous deed, might I not be accounted madde? yee, and therefore I will not trust her: Artesia being once dispatcht, she shall follow next. Ornatus on the contrary part, was glad that he had felt the depth of Floretus counsell, thinking likewise that he was so farre in loue with him (taking him for a woman,) that for his sake he sought Artesiaes death: which was the onely meanes to helpe him attaine her loue, which he likewise determined to giue her knowledge of, and discover himselfe, hoping that when she sawe his innocencie, his faithfull loue, and how by his meanes her life was preserued, she would yeld him due querdron for his good will. Whilst he was in the depth of those cogitations, he espied Artesia enter the garden, and taking his Lute, sounde her seated vpon a flowrie bankie, vnder the shade of a mirtle tree, and perceiuing that she was somewhat heauily inclinde, he satte downe by her, and with his sweete melodie, brought her a sleepe, when she had slept a good while, being exceedingly affrighted with a dreame, she started vp, looking earnestly vpon Syluian, saying; I pray thee Syluian do not poison mee. Syluian seeing her so affrighted, was exceedingly amazed, and she her selfe not yet fully recovered, seemed to be affraid of him, till at last Syluian said. I beseech you what is it that affrighteth you? And Syluian said she, I dreamt thou wouldst haue murdered me. Heauens forbid (quoth he) that I should attempt so hainous a deed: But would you vouchsafe to heare my tragicke report, you should be rid of that doubt, though Syluian is much tempted to do such a deed: who esteeme your life moze dearer then mine owne, and would rather with my owne hands teare out my wofull heart, then thinke the least thought to wrong you. But because I haue so fit occasion, and I hope your patience will permit me, I will rehearse a most monstrous and hainous intended mischief. The other day I remember you were exceedingly offended with me for naming Or-

# The Historie of

natus, for that you supposed him to be an actor in Arbastus death, but both he and Allinus are innocent, and farre from any such thought, for your uncle Floretus was his murthrer, which he tolde me himselfe: he hath bene oftentimes importunate to win my loue (which an other possesseth) but I suspecting as much as I now find to be true, held him off with this delay, that he had not wealth to maintaine me. Which when I had often alleaged, he tolde me all that belonged to Arbastus was his: then I demanded how that could be, since you were living? Quoth he, I sweare byt to be secret, and I will tell you how. With that upon my protestations, he tolde me that he had murdered Arbastus, and ment to poison you: perswading me to consent thereto, for that he said, I onely could do it: with that (I not purposing to do it, but to persue you) promised him my uttermost assistance, which he tolde me should be done, in this manner. I will (quoth he) perswade Artesia, to forsake this Castle, and to sojorne some few dayes in a house Arbastus hath in his Parke, where none but you & two others seruants, whose secrets I nothing doubt, shall keep her company, where I will giue you such a potion, as shall end her life, and yet by no means be perceiued, neither can there be any doubt thereof: for that I and none else am left of her kindred, to search the truth. This is the summe of that he tolde me. Artesia hearing her wordes, saie like one without sence a good space, being so farre overcome with griefe and feare, that she could not speake a word, but at the last burst forth into these lamentations. O mee, kinde, and most unnatural Uncle, canst thou speake me so faire and intend me so much harm? Who would haue thought so soule impietie, had ben shrowded vnder so faire pretext? Consist thou be so unnatural, as to murther thy owne most naturall louing and dear brother, and not contented with his tragédie, to seek my untimely death? What frenzie or follie doth possesse thy best, that I esteemed replete with vertue? How canst thou suffer so impious and haynons a thought to sink in thy best, much lesse to act such a notorious outrage against him y<sup>e</sup> loued thee as his life, & her that honoureth thee as her friend? O Syluan, may I credit thy wordes, and not rather accuse thee, and excuse him? May I thinke him so

simple,

# Ornatus and Artesia.

simple, to trust thee with his secrets: no I feare mee this is some policie intended by thee to some bad end. Yet I pray thee pardon me: for what canst thou get by telling me so vnicke if were so? or not rather haue kept his counsell, & then thou mightest haue bene my heire. And pardon I ask of thee good Ornatus, though thou art absent, for that I accused thee as accessarie to my fathers death, when thou art innocent. With that a flood of teares stopt y<sup>e</sup> passage of her speech, & Syluan saide. Artesia, yet vouchsafe to heare my counsell, which shall preuent all these imminent evils. You may peradventure make some doubt of the truth, of that which I haue spoken: but I take heauen to record, no word is false: for I regard your good above all things, and your quiet above mine owne content: for shuld you dye, I could not liue: for by you I draw my breath. I diued into Floretus counsailes, not to ayd him, but to preuent them: for that I knew Ornatus was no way guiltie of any such treason, but would haue ventured his owne life, to haue perserued your fathers, whome he both loued & honored as himselfe. Of whome I could haue told you more, but that fearing to offend you, & partly seeing how vehemently you accused him, I durst not, whose loue is legall, & theron I will pawn my life. Syluan (quoth Artesia) thou tellest mee things of wonder, but especially y<sup>e</sup> thou art so private to Ornatus thoughts, and y<sup>e</sup> thou darest so boldly asseme he loneth me, when thou maist be deceived. Most vertuous Artesia (quoth he) were you but so private to y<sup>e</sup> thoughts of his hart as I am, you would say as much as I, & beleue all y<sup>e</sup> I tel you: and to put you in assurance of what I know, I giue you knowledge y<sup>e</sup> I am Ornatus, y<sup>e</sup> in this disguise haue sought to attaine your loue: for which voluntee I most humbly beseech you to pardon mee. With y<sup>e</sup> a ruddie blush spied it selfe in Artesias cheekes, before pale with feare, being so much ashamed y<sup>e</sup> he had bin so private to many of her actions, that she could not tell with what countenance to behold him. When Ornatus saide, I beseech you pittie my torment, which hath vrged mee to this boldnesse, being frustrated of other meanes to enioy your presence: my meaning being no other then vertuous, but resting at your mercifull disposition. Desiring you to put assured confidence in me, for preuenting Floretus intent, which you had not doubt of, for to my griefe I know it to be so true.

Artesia

# The Historie of

Artesia marvelled exceedingly at the strangeness of these newes, but most of all admired Ornatus loue, which she could not tell how to reiect, for that she both well knewe, he deserved loue, and the necessity of time was such, that her safetie rested in his secrecie: yet being not willing at that instant to yeelde without further assaunt, said: I know not by what name to call you, when neither I know whether you are Syluius, or Ornatus, but which of both, your words beare great shewe of true friendship, which I feare me is not grounded in your heart, neither do I greatly care: for since my uncle seeketh my life, let him take it, for I am weary thereof.

Let not your gentle heart (quoth Ornatus) make any doubt that I am Ornatus; though my counterfeit disguise doth shewe me other, but either vouchsafe me loue, or giue me leave to die for Artesia, for that potion that should dispatch you, shall end my life: for my life is bound to your command, and all my felicitie resteth in your favour. Which vnto you graunt, my life with out the same will be but thoyte, and the time I haue to liue, an endlesse labyrinth of sorrow.

Adelleha by occasion entered the garden, and found Artesia weeping, and Syluius in a heauie dumps, ready to torment himselfe to see her sorrow; but Artesia espying her, said: Adelleha, dost thou loue Ornatus; so much, as that thou wouldest hazard life and credit to do him good: for that I knowe him to be a most vertuous & honest Gentleman: I but wouldest thou quoth she, heare my counsell if I reueale a secret of importance to you concerning Ornatus: And vpon Adellehas promise, she said: do you know Ornatus if you see him: behold there he is. Adelleha was at the first halfe astonisht at her speeches: but at last she perfectly remembred that was he indeed: reioycing most exceedingly to see him there, especially with Artesia. When they declared vnto her all that had happened, and of Florentus intent, desiring her to be secret, and make no shewe of discontent, least he should suspect Syluius had betrayed his secrets: and after some other speeches past, they went in together.

CHAP.

# Ornatus and Artesia.

CHAP. VIII.

How Artesia departed to the Lodge with Syluius, and from thence secretly departed to Adellehas house, and how Ornatus taken to be Syluius, was by Florentus accusation, and Artesias want, banished.



Let so out the next day, that the King with diuers of his company, amongst whom was his only sonne and heire Lenon, being wearied with trauell, arrived at Arbastus house, thinking to haue founde him there, but the King hearing of his suddaine death, was exceedingly sorie, perswading himselfe as all men else did, that he was slaine by some of Allinus house: which made him make small tarlance there, but departed to his Pallace. Now it fortuned that Lenon behelde Artesias bewtie, and was with the first view thereof, exceedingly bewitched, that after he was gone, he could by no meanes forget her: but determined ere long, to returne to see if he could attaine her lone. Now the time was come that Florentus had appointed to set abroach his villany, and (according as Ornatus had before told Artesia) he came to her, perswading her for a season to lie in the Countrey, which she as soearely consented vnto, and so the next morning, she with Syluius, Florentus, and diuers others, departed: at night Florentus returning, and leauing with her according as he had promised Syluius, and onely two seruants that were to prouide them necessaries, but knew no part of the conspiracie. When Ornatus and Artesia were alone together, for that she was vndoubtedly assured of his loue, faith and fidelity, she vied these comfortable speeches to him. Ornatus, whereas alwaies before this time too vnkindly I haue reputed you as a foe, I now craue pardon, being sorie that my heart hath done you so much wrong, which now I will requite with kindnesse. I re-  
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tesse it was strange to me to entertaine loue, but now I willingly  
 yield my selfe to be her subiect, and your true and faithfull friend:  
 committing my life to your custodie, and my loue and selfe to be  
 yours to dispose of. Ornatus hearing her speeches, was ranshed  
 with a heauen of ioy, with a gentle and kind behauiour, foulding  
 her in his armes, and imprinting a sweete kisse vpon her rostrate  
 lippes, he said. . . Neuer was poore wretch exalted to moze happi-  
 nesse then I am, by being enriched with this inestimable trea-  
 sure of your loue. Whow rich a reward haue I now reapt for my  
 cares, and what glorie, ioy or wealth, can be compared to the ri-  
 ches of your loue? O heauenly Artesia, how fortunate haue you  
 made Ornatus: how haue you blest Ornatus? how full of ioy is  
 Ornatus, by your sweete consent: was euer any so vnworthy, so  
 exalted, for his kindnesse and loue? I wil performe moze then  
 my tongue can utter, and bee moze faithfull then your heart can  
 wish. When began they to embrace each other, and to surfet them-  
 selues in the sollaces, true loue yieldeth. . . He sometimes lending  
 her a kisse, and she with interest paying two for one: for one sweet  
 looke two, and so many embracings as are not to be explicated:  
 their hands and hearts ioyned in such firme bandes of true affec-  
 tion, as is not to be dissolved: and surtetting with such exceeding  
 content, as is impossible to be described. These stozmes of loue  
 somewhat mitigated, they began to consult of their daungerous  
 estate, and to deuise how to prevent the intended mischiefe. In  
 this place they continued some two dayes in exceeding content,  
 still expecting to heare from Floretus: who the third day fearing  
 to trow any with a matter of such waight, came himselfe to bring  
 the potion, (yet in shew of kindnes to visite Artesia) deliuering  
 the same to Syluius, willing her the next night to giue it her,  
 which she promised him faithfully to accomplish.

When he was gone, Artesia came to Ornatus to knowe  
 what newes Floretus brought, who tolde her all, and shewed  
 her the poyson in a glasse, which he had charged should be giuen  
 to her the next day. With that Artesia beganne to waile and  
 exclaime against her Cynckle, in most extreme sort. But Or-  
 natus

# Ornatus and Artesia.

natus intreated her to cease such vaine grieffe, which could not  
 hurt him, but her selfe, promising her to prevent the same, if she  
 would follow his counsell, which she willingly yielded vnto.  
 When quoth hee, let vs presently depart hence to Adellenaes  
 house, which you know is not farre off, who you know is agreed  
 with vs already, where I will leaue you, and returne. Which  
 said, while the seruants were absent vpon some speciall occasion,  
 they departed with little labour, arriuing at Adellenas house,  
 who was ready to receiue them, and after many farewell, Or-  
 natus returned backe to the Lodge. And when it was supper  
 time, the seruants brought vp meate, but Ornatus tolde them  
 that Artesia was scarce well, and therefore they would not sup  
 that night. And being alone by himselfe, he studied what excuse to  
 make for Artesias absence, when Floretus should come, spending  
 that night in much care, and many vnquiet cogitations, which  
 took away his slepe.

Floretus was no sooner returned from the Lodge, but hee  
 met Lenon, who of purpose came to meete Artesia, whom Flo-  
 retus kindly saluted: maruelling much where'ore hee came: to  
 ease which doubt, Lenon said.

My friend Floretus, I come to visite the faire Artesia, to  
 whose beautie I am enthralled, not as regarding her wealth,  
 but her sweete loue, of whome you onely haue the gouernment:  
 therefore I pray befriend me so much, that I may come to speach  
 with her. Floretus was so exceedingly amazed to heare his spee-  
 ches, that he could not tell what answer to make, nor how to ex-  
 cuse her absence. Lenon seeing him in such a studie, continued his  
 speeches, saying: Floretus be not vnwilling I should match with  
 Artesia, for that shall no way binder your preferment, who think  
 peradventure the longer shee lucth vnmarried, the moze wealth  
 you shall get by her, but to rid you of that doubt, be vnto a meanes  
 to win her consent, and I bowe by heauen, I will not take one  
 penitworth of Arballus substance from you, but freely giue it you  
 all. For it is not her possessions I regare, but her loue, therefore I  
 pray resolve me of your minde herein.

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My Lord replied hee, your offer is so bountifull, besides my dutie bying me, I am readie to perforce your will to the uttermost of my power. I thanke you good Floretus quoth Lenon, then I pray thee bying mee to her, for my loue is impatient of delay. My Lord replied he, that can I not do instantly, for Artesia some two daies past, with the strange damosell Syluius, departed thence, and are now at the Lodge: whither (if you please to take such entertainment as this place yieldeth) we will both goe to morrow morning. Agreed quoth Lenon, I will accept your proffer. When the time of rest was come, Floretus being alone by himselfe, entred into these cogitations. What inconueniences hast thou runne into Floretus? Whom hast byzed one to murder Artesia, in hope to get her wealth, and made Syluius acquainted with thy counsell, which wealth thou maiest now attaine by preserving her life: and besides, winning her to lone Lenon, thou shalt finde him thy faithfull friend for ever. What wert thou then best to doe? if thou shouldst murder her, hee would make enquire of her death, and so thou bee undone: If not, then wil Syluius bee displeased, and so betwixt thy dyist: that the mischiefs thou by folly hast runne into, are so intricate, that thou knowest not which way to shunne them. Were it not better to saue her life, and winne her Loue for Lenon, then to poison her, and so to dye my selfe? If I saue her life, Syluius will be discontented: what of that? then let Syluius smart for it, for if she wil not bee contented with that I shall doe, she shall neuer lise to betwixt my counsell. And therefore wil I first trie her, and finding any suspicion thereof, I will stabbe her my selfe, whose death I may easilier answer then Artesias. Early the next morning, Lenon and he rode to the Lodge, where no sooner arrived, but he met with Syluius, to whom he said: How now Syluius, I haue newes of importance to betwixt to thee, Lenon whom thou here beholdest, is sonne to the King, who is deeply in lone with Artesia, and hath giuen me assurance of all Arballus liuinge, if I can win Artesia to match with him, now I thinke it good to deferre our purpose as concerning her death, until wee haue made triall whether she

will

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will lone him or no. Which if we can effect, we shall be quit of so cruel a deed, enjoy her heritage, and haue an assured friend of Lenon whilst we lue: therefore let me know your opinion herein. Syluius was exceedingly amazed to heare his speeches, thinking that if he did tel him where Artesia was, she should be wrested from his possession, and so himselfe disappointed of her loue: and on the other side, he thought what mischiefe would arise if he should say he had already giuen her the poison, yet his loue overcomeing the feare of any daunger, made him say, All this I like: but Floretus, it is now too late, for I haue caused Artesia to drinke the poison you deliuered me, and she is dead, which was of such force, that all her bodie purpled into blisters and swellings, which because I knew would betwixt what we had done, I took her bodie and conueyed it into a deepe pit, where it is impossible to be found. Floretus now fearing to haue his treason betwixt, thought to stabbe Syluius; and so to be rid of them both, that in a monstrous rage he drew his dagger, and vnawares strooke Syluius in the left arme, who feeling the smart, with violence more then Floretus expected, leapt to him, and in spite of his uttermost strength, wrong the dagger out of his hands, and with the same wounded him in three places, and had not Lenon leapt betwixt them, Floretus had bene slaine. With that Lenon parting them, demanded what the matter was: Floretus thinking rather to accuse, then be accused himselfe, and terrified with affright, saide that wicked woman hath murdered Artesia. Syluius made no answer until Lenon laid hold on her, demanding where Artesia was, she answering, that by the intisement of that wicked Floretus, I gaue her a drinke that unknowing to me hath poisoned her. A wicked creature saide Lenon, thou hast condemned thy selfe to death. With that he began to draw his sword, but Ornatus thinking it now no time to dally lest hee might by them be murdered, caught holde on Lenons sword, hauing such advantage, that he easily wrong it from him, and said: Worthy Lenon be aduised, do not thou seeke to spil my innocent blood, without fur-

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ther consideration, least for the same thou loose thine owne. Thinkest thou I am as faultie and guiltie as Floretus is: be assured I am not. But if thou louest Justice, late hands on that Egyptian, for he not I, is culpable of shedding her innocent blood. By this time Lenons servants perceluing their contention, came running in with their swordes drawn, by their Lordes commandement, apprehending Floretus, and afterwarde taking by violence to take Syluan, but he standing in his owne defence, resisted them, alledging innocence, till Lenon bowed and protested if he were not accessory thereto, he should haue no other then iustice, and that his cause should be heard before the King. Ornatus thought it better to yeelde by faire meanes, rather then by compulsion, and esteeming it lesse grieve to be made a prisoner, then to be slayd where Artesia was, and so haue her taken from him, yeeldeth: both of them being conueyed to the Palace, and for that night committed to severall prisons. Floretus conscience so deeply accused him of villany, that he continued cursing and exclaiming against his hard fortune, with bitter bannings raging against himselfe for trusting Syluan, seeming with extreame feare of death, desperate.

Ornatus on the other side, tooketh that trouble patiently, as endured for Artesias sake fearing nothing, for that hee know himselfe innocent, and could easily acquite himselfe of such accusation, purposing rather to hazard the worst, then be slayd what he was: which to conceale, was his greatest care. The next day they were brought before the Prince, where Floretus upon Syluan: accusation confesseth the truth, both concerning Artesia, and how he due Arbastus, for which hee was adiudged to die within two daies. And quoth he to Syluan, for that thou art a stranger, and by his counsell rather then of thine owne inclination, wert drawn unwittingly to do that deed, I will pardon thy life, but adiudge thee to be banished this Countrey: and quoth he, because I feare that some wil take thy life, thou shalt presently be conueyed hence. Which doome shall stand irrevocable. When gaue he commandement, hee should be conueyed to the haven presently,

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# Ornatus and Artesia.

committing her to the custodie of certaine rude spongers. Who not staying to heare what answer shee would make (whereof poore Ornatus was not readily provided of, in that extremity) immediately carried her away: to whom Ornatus would haue tolde the truth of all, but hee spake to them that understood him not, who with speede executing their soueraignes command, rudely haled him aboard, and hoysing saile, never rested untill they arrived neare the coast of Natolia, where they were commanded to leaue her.

## CHAP.



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## CHAP. IX.

Of the sorrow *Artesia* tooke for *Ornatus* banishment, and of the seuerall aduentures befall him in *Natolia*.



*Artesia* remaining in *Adellena's* house, marvelled she heard not from *Ornatus* according to his promise, which braue her into some doubt of his safetie, that comming to *Adellena*, she desired her to haste to the Lodge, to intreate him to come to her, for that by her hearts misdoubt she suspected some heauie newes. *Adellena* immediately hasted thither, finding the seruants in great sorrow, whom she asked for *Syluius*. By me, quoth one of them, by this time she is past speaking withall: for such heauie newes is befallen since your departure, as grieueth me to bitter, yet notwithstanding she told her all that was happened.

*Adellena* browning no delay which in those affaires was dangerous, and not to immitate of those grieues, and how contrarily every thing fell out, but with all haste returned to *Artesia*, who espying her comming, thought her countenance beloyed some vniwelcome accident; hastily enquiring how *Ornatus* did. *Adellena* for want of breath could not speake a good space, but at the last she said. *Artesia*, tedious lament is not now to be vsed, but speedie counsell how to saue *Ornatus*, for he is carried before the king, is accused by *Floretus* to haue murdered you, for comming to the Lodge with *Lenon* the kings sonne, who pretendeth great loue to you, and not finding you, *Ornatus* tolde *Floretus* he had given you the poyson, whereupon *Floretus* wold haue slaine him, but *Ornatus* taking his dagger from him, had done the like to him, had not *Lenon* kept betwixt them. When *Floretus* accused him for your death, and he *Floretus*: and both were yester day carried before the king.

Alas

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*Alas* quoth *Ornatus*, said *Artesia*, what miserie is befallen thee for my sake: howe art thou rewarded for preferring my life? Good *Adellena*, counsell me what is to be done: *Ornatus* being amongst them a reputed stranger, hauing no friend to pleade for him, and peraduenture ouerwayed by *Floretus* perurie, may haue his life in daungered, and the rather for that he is taken to be a *Natolian*. Wherefore *Adellena*, if thou louest him or me, wilt saue both his and my life, and discharge him of that false accusation, runne to the Court, and finding out *Lenon*, tell him of my safetie, and request him for my sake to pittie poore *Syluius*. *Adellena* according to her commaundement, mounted a horse, and with great speede by that time it was night, attained the Court, and finding out *Lenon*, uttered these speeches. Most worthy *Lenon*, vouchsafe to heare me speake: The faire *Artesia* whome you suppose dead, is aline and in safetie at my house, who hath sent me vnto you in the behalfe of *Syluius*, fearing some wrong might be done to her, as suspected to be her death, when she onely hath preserved her life.

*Lenon* was so amazed at her speeches, that he could not tell what to say, being exceedingly grieued for *Syluius*, but at length tolde her what his father had done: which appalled her senses with deadly feare. *Lenon*, notwithstanding it somewhat grieued him for *Syluius*, yet his heart was glad to heare of *Artesia's* safetie, and therefore he determined to goe with *Adellena* to visit her; which likewills he performed, and entring where she was, making exceeding lamentation, he said.

I beseech you graue not faire *Widow* sell for *Syluius*, for no harme is done to her, onely my father bypon her owne confession and *Floretus* accusation, hath banished her, to her owne Countrey.

*Artesia* hearing his speeches, with verie grieues fell into a deadly traunce, both *Lenon* and *Adellena* hauing much ado to bring her life againe. And being conueyed to her bed, when her senses were come to their perfect vse, and *Lenon* standing by her, whose sight was most grieuous to her, she turned her head

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head from his sight, shedding such abundance of teares, that shee bedraued the place where shee late. Lenon perceiving that shee was displeased with his presence, withdrew himselfe, giving Adellena this charge. Adellena, since Artesia is in thy custodie, I charge thee let her not depart hence, untill thou hearest of mee againe, for if thou dost, thou shalt answer the same: but if thou wilt stand my friend, and in my behalfe intreat her favour, I will prove so grateful a friend, as thou shalt account thy labour wel employed.

Shee was no longer gone, but Artesia uttered these lamentations; *Woe accursed wretch that I am, to be thus separated from my deare Love, whose curious minde is the fountaine of all vertue: how unfortunate am I made by my fathers death, and my Achilles crueltie, but especially by his losse, that is unjustly banished into a strange Countrey, where hee prove true and loyall Gentleman, never set foot: how unhappie was hee made, when hee first beganne his love: but now most miserable, by seeking to preserve my life, hath cast away his owne; and fearing to be disappointed of my love, hath quite distressed himselfe from my sight, to hazard his person by sea and land. Not possible that hee should ever returne, being so farre conveyed from his native soyle, and left to the mercies of strange people, that will be ready to destroy his guiltlesse life. No I feare mee, never shall I be so happy as beholde him, and though I be not, yet shall my love to him remaine immovable. Wherefore now will I arme my selfe to endure all perilles, to live in care, and continuall lament, for want of beloved Ornatus, whose heart I knowe is replete with sorrowe, and peradventure misdoubteth my loyaltie, having bene so unkinde to him before: and knowing Lenons affection, may suppose his dignitie might alter my constancie. But sooner shall Ornatus heare of my death, then that I have altered my love, or yielded his right to another, were hee the greatest Potentate in the world.*

Which saide, another flood of brimste teares overflowed her eyes, and her passage of speche was stoppt by heart-piercing sighings,

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sighings, which in confused multitudes issued with her sweet breath, never ceasing her lamentes, but still bewayling her true Loves absence, that it pierced Adellenaes heart with such sorrowe, that shee wept as fast as Artesia, both being so much grieved, that they seemed to strive howe to excede one another in lamentes. In which sorrowfull estate, Artesia remained so long, that shee waxed extreame sicke, and grew to that extremitie, that Adellena feared her death.

Lenon likewise being come to the Court, gatte pardon of his father for Florents death, but notwithstanding hee remained in prison all the dayes of his life. Lenon likewise hearing of Artesias sicknesse, refrained from visiting her, onely he would oftentimes repaire to Adellenaes house, to enquire howe shee did.

Ornatus being left in the Countrey of Natolia, took his misfortunes in such heauie sort, that had not his hope to see Artesia againe withheld him, hee had offered himselfe some outrage, for a season giuing himselfe to toylous and carelesse desperation, neither regarding which way to provide for his safety, nor otherwise respecting what danger hee might runne into in that strange Countrey, for the Pirates had landed him in a waste and desolate Coast of the Countrey.

Thus carelesse did hee continue a whole night and a day, not so much as seeing need to preserve him from famine: but in the ende, hunger constrained him to seek succour, but when his stomacke served him, hee could finde no meate, that with the extremitie thereof, calling to remembrance his estate, hee uttered these plaints.

Thus contrary to Nature to her subjects, sometimes hoyling them to the toppe of all felicitie, and then with violence tumbling them downe headlong into the depth of extreame misery.

Was euer more fortunate, and suddenly miserable then I am? Could euer any man whatsoever, attaine more heauenly felicitie and happinesse then I did, by being possesed of Artesia?

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and now againe more accurst being thus far absented from her: and banished my native soyle into a Strange Countrey, ready to be famished or deuoured by wild beasts, or that which is worst, neuer likely to see Artesia againe. How could any man containe himselfe from desperatenesse, being so miserable as I am: How can I Withholde my hands from murdering my selfe, when by doing it, I should be ridde out of a wretched life? What should I doe, which way should I goe: Here I am in a desolate and vn- frequented place, where no humane creatures inhabit, but wilde beasts, without fode, without weapons, in womans apparrell, and without hope of comfort. Shall I stae here: then shall I be famished: Shall I leaue this place and trauell further: then I goe farther from my beloved, and meeting with some rauen- nous beast, may be deuoured. Now being hungrie I want fode, and here is none, vnlesse I will eate the earth, leaues of trees, or roots of the grasse. Well I will sake my fortune, bee it good or ill: and in this desperate mood he trauelled on, and by good fortune founde a Tree laden with exceeding, pleasant, and good- ly fruite, with which he quenched his hunger: not farre from which place, he tooke up his nights lodging.

Early the next morning he aroise, first filling his belly, and then his lappe with that pleasant fruite, the taste whereof, was like pleasant wine, that being drunke in abundance, will make the head light: which made Ornatus hearte merrie, that he trauelled on apace, but Fortune not contented with the miserie he had endured already, sent him in an other affliction: he entered into a place like a Forrest, beset with Trees of huge proportion, scattered here and there, where he met with a wild and fierce Boze, that haunted those Deserts, who spying Ornatus, with a terrible groyning bizzled himselfe comming towarde him, Ornatus being now oxnen to his bittermost shittes, be- ganne to runne with all his force from the beast, but he mak- ing the moze speede had almost overtaken him, when one of the Apples Ornatus carried about him fell bolone, and the Boze spying the same, staled his halfe to take it vp, whereby

Ornatus

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Ornatus had gotten some little ground of him, and seeing him so much affect the fruite, cast downe another Apple after which the Boze ranne, with greedinesse deuouring the same. Or- natus was gladd of this piece of shitt, and still cast downe one Ap- ple and then another, that in the ende he had almost thzowne away all, and notwithstanding that, feared to be destroyed, but the Boze feeling his belly full, and his hunger staunched, left off his rage pursue and followed him more carelesly, whom he still fedde with Apples, so long as his store lasted, that in the ende the Boze being drunke with the pleasant fruite, began to reele and stagger, and lying bolone fast a sleepe, which Or- natus seeing, hauing no other then a knife about him, with the same approached the Boze, and without feare, violently thrust the same so deepe into the Bozes bizzled side, that it pearced his heart, and he after some stragling died.

Ornatus then helde by his hands to heauen for joy, exceeding- ly applauding this his fortunate and vnerpected escape; which he took as a fortunate presage of good successe. But yet before he could determine what to doe, Fortune once againe showed her metabilittle, for when Ornatus had parted the Bozes head from his huge bodie, and with the same was ready to depart, there past by as it seemed, a knight gallantly mounted, in green armor, who espying a woman bearing the Bozes head, dzeu towards her, and said: Woman where hast thou that Bozes head: I pray thee deliuer it me. Ornatus made this answer. Sir I need not doe either, vnlesse I know moze cause then as yet I doe. The knight hearing that short answer, alighted, and saide: I will thewe no other reason but that I will haue it: with that he be- ganne to stalue for the same, but Ornatus hauing moze minde to his sword then to keepe the Bozes head, suddenly caught holde on the Natalians sword, and dzeu the same out, which when he had gotten, he said: Disloyall and discourteous knight, now will I keepe the Bozes head in despiight of thee, with that hee thrust at him, and contrary to his thought, wounded him so deepe that he left him for dead, wishing that he had not done that deed, but not knowing

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knowing how discarteously he would haue bleſed him, let paſſe all further remoys, and caſting off his womans apparell, put on the Knights apparell and Armour, mounted the ſteede, and with the Woꝝes head, rode backe the ſame way he ſawe the Knight come, and within a little ſpace, found a beaten way that conducted him to a goodly Towne, whoſe Worrel ſtoppes he ſawe long befoꝛe he came to the ſame: then began he to ſtadic what to doe, ſometimes thinking it beſt not to enter into the Towne, from whence it is likely the Knight he ſawe came, and ſo he being taken foꝛ him might bee knowne, and ſo afterwards indaungered foꝛ his death. Foꝛ peradventure the Knight might be of good eſtimation, and of purpoſe ſent to ſlay the Woꝛe, and if it ſhould be knowne that he had ſlain him, his friends would foꝛ the ſame, and the rather foꝛ that he was a ſtraunger, proſecute harpe reuenge againſt him. Whilſt he was in theſe meditations, he came neare the Towne, not ſailly reſolved what to doe, where he was ſone eſpied of ſome of the people, who ſeeing the Woꝝes head, came running towards him making excedding loy: which when he ſaw, he thought it too late to turne back, but that he muſt go on and hazard the woꝛſt: and being entred the Towne, a number of the Inhabitants ſtoked about him, ſome with garlands, ſome with praifes, and all with loy, uttering theſe ſpeeches. Welcome home moſt braue Alprinus.

Ornatus then perfectly knew that the Knights name was Alprinus, and went of purpoſe to ſee the Woꝛe, whome they took him to be, and that he muſt of neceſſitie be knowne: which braue him into excedding care what excuſe to make, to auoide the danger of death. When preſently he beheld a troupe of beſtfull Damoſels, with the ſoundes of ſweete Muſicke coming towards him, (amongſt whom, one as chiefe and moꝛe beſtfull then the reſt, was crowned with a wreath of flowers, bearing another in her hand) who all at once applauded his victorie, dancing befoꝛe him, untill he came into the middeſt of the Towne where ſaith the chiefe Magiſtrates, where the Damoſell that was crowned, thus ſpoke to him.

¶

# Ornatus and Artesia.

¶ Alprinus, your conqueſt hath releaſed theſe Inhabitants of care, extolled thy ſame, preſerued thy life, and wonne me foꝛ thy Loue. You haue well perſormed the talke you vnderſtooke, and according to your deſert, I come to Crowne you with theſe flowers, and to giue my ſelfe as yours foꝛ euer.

Ornatus hearing her ſpeeches, thought to trie the end of this aduenture, which could be no woꝛſe then death, which of ſorce he muſt now hazard, alighted, laying downe the Woꝝes head vpon a Table that ſtood befoꝛe the Auncients, with humble and comely behauiour kiſſing the Damoſelles hande, who ſet the wreath of flowers vpon his head, and taking him by the hand, brought him befoꝛe the Auncients, one of whome ſtoode vp and ſaid: Woꝛthie Gentleman, whereas befoꝛe thou wert by vs aduſged to die as woꝛthie thereof, foꝛ this thy valiant deed, we freely pardon thee, and acquite thee from all treſpaſſes that thou haſt committed againſt any whomſoeuer untill this preſent houre.

And taking the Damoſell by the hand ſaith, Lucida, according to thy deſire, and his deſert, I giue thee vp to be his wiſe. And Gentleman quoth he, take her as thine owne, as freely as ſhe was by birth adopted mine: and after my death, be thou inheritor of my land.

To all this Ornatus gaue a reuerent conſent, and the night now approaching, he with Lucida went to her fathers houſe, where was a great feaſt provided, from which Ornatus excuſed himſelfe in this ſort. When he was entred the houſe, being ſtill Armed, only liſting vp his ſcuier, he took Lucida by the hand, and withdrawing her aſide, ſaid.

Lucida, I nowe finde your loue to bee inſallible, and your conſtancie to excell all women that I haue knowne: and that Alprinus is ſo farre indebted vnto you, as that he ſhall neuer (might he liue a thouſande yeares) bee able to recompence this inſtimable fauour of your loue, which hath preſerued my unworthie life from deſtruction.

But notwithstanding your Loue Alprinus, his debt is to

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so great as can no way be gratified, I request one further favour at your handes, wheron my cheefest sollicitie dependeth, yea my life, your loue, and perpetuall good, which I feare to utter, lest you should misconceiue the same, there being no other thing to hinder the content Alprinus seeketh, but onely your favourable consent, to banish all mistrust of my faith.

Lucida marvelled at his speeches, indeed louing him so well, that she would haue spill her owne blood for his sake, saying: Alprinus, what neede you make doubt of my consent to any thing whatsoever it be for your sake? knowe you not howe faithfull I haue continued, though you shew my onely brother? and that I esteemed your loue farre dearer then his life, and when you should haue died for that deed, obtained this at my fathers and the rest of the ancients handes, that slaying the Woze that destroyed many people, you should saue your owne life, and winne me as your Loue. And notwithstanding all this, doe you make a question whether I will yeelde consent to any thing that shall be for your good? O Alprinus, if your loue were so constant as mine, if you intended to continue my loue for euer, if your heart felt so deepe a sting of loue as mine, you would not make such a doubt of my loyalty, of my truth, true loue and constancie. For you knowe whatsoever you should aske, I will graunt: whatsoever you should request, I will performe: and wherein soeuer a Louer may shewe infallible tokenes of her truth, I will be as much as any: but since you will not be-leave mee without an oathe, I sweare by my loide, my vnspotted virginite, and by all the gods I wish my heart, I will consent, agree, performe, or doe any thing: not be offended with any thing, be the netwre neuer so vnwelcome, so it be for Alprinus good: nor leaue any thing vnperformed you shall require.

Ornatus hearing with what constancie her speeches proceeded from her, and how graciously she conceiued it, that any doubt should be made of her loyalty, thought most certainly that he might put his life into her hands, and therefore hauing already

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already studied a device, said, It ill agreeth with my nature so to dissemble: and hardly could I haue bene content thereto, but that desire to preserve loue, moueth me thereto: for knowe most worthy Lucida, that I am not Alprinus, but one that for his sake, hath undertaken this: The truth whereof, if you will heare with patience, I will declare.

After day, I traualled through the Forrest, or desert, where I met Alprinus, sore wounded, and flying from the Woze that pursued him with celeritie: which when I behelde, to rescue him from death, I set vpon the Woze, and by good fortune slew him: which when he behelde, he declared to me the cause of his coming: which when I heard, pittying his estate, I bid him take the woyses head, and withall, helpe him to mount his steed, but his woundes would not suffer him to ride, that I was in some feare of his life. When presently we beheld an auncient Vermisse comming towards vs, who liued in a Cave in those woods, who undertooke to cure his woundes, being glad of the Woyses death. To whose Cell I conveyed Alprinus: At whose request, I haue performed this which you see, and haue undertaken to hazard my life, to discharge him of death, and to win the assured possession of your loue.

Now I most humbly intreat you for his sake, to conceale what I am, that I be not knowne: and so both disappoint your selfe of his loue, and him of safetie. Onely devise a meanes to excuse mee from this feast: which I trust you will doe for Alprinus sake, and then wee may haue time to studie for your further content.

Lucidas loue, made her believe that all she said was true, and therefore saide: Why, I trust there is no cause why I should mistrust you: and therefore relying vpon the truth of that which you haue said, I will tell my father you are wounded, and desire rather to goe to your Chamber, then to the feast, who I knowe will denie mee nothing. This said, she went to her father, and so prevailed with him, that he was contented she should haue the sending of him: whome she took to a chamber, suffering none to

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come at him, but her maide, to whom she trusted: and well might trust for her fidelitie. Afterwardes Lucida came to Ornatus, to determine how she might come to see Alprinus, being most careful of his health: and amongst many other speeches, they concluded, that Ornatus the next morning should depart towardes the Forrest, to Alprinus, and that she by some meanes would come thither the next day after, if hee would make her, to give her directions where to finde him, which he promised to do. According to this agreement, Ornatus very earlie the next morning, armed himselfe, and as Lucida had instructed him, took his leave of his father, who little suspected he had bene any other then Alprinus, gave his consent, and so Ornatus in Alprinus armour againe departed the Towne, being glad that he was escaped from death, which he was sure to have incurred, if it had bin any waies knowne that he had slaine Alprinus.

And being now alone by himselfe, having the wide world to trauell into, he neuer a friende to go to, boyd offeare, but not of care: hee thought whether to direct his Iourney: sometimes his conscience accusing him of too much dissimulation towardes Lucida, in betraying her vertues by his dissimulation, in telling her Alprinus was liuing, when hee knewe it to the contrary.

When hee contrarilie, thought it was lawfull for him to dissemble with her, to save his owne life, and though he had slaine Alprinus, hee did it but in defence of his honour.

Amongst all these, this cogitation seemed most to acquite him of dishonour, that fortune and the deuities had by that meanes ordained him to escape. While hee rode on in these deepe meditations, he met with an ancient hermit, who comming towards him said: Discourteous gentleman, how camest thou by that armour and yet I need not aske thee, for I know thou slewest the worthy gentleman Alprinus, which I beheld to my greefe. Father (quoth Ornatus) if thou dost beholde the same, thou canst witness I did it against my will, and in mine owne defence: for whose death I am so sorry as thy selfe, and would as willingly haue done any

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any thing to preserve the same as any man liuing.

Will you then (said the Hermit) doe this for him, vouchsafe to come and speake with him, who is in reasonable good estate in my Cell?

I would to God (said Ornatus) thy wordes were true: for if hee be liuing, it will reueue my heart with joy, that is almost banquished with care: desiring nothing more then to see him. What is liuing said the Hermit, and if you will goe, I will bring you to him presently.

Ornatus being come to the Cell, accordingly found Alprinus very weake, by reason of his grievous wound, to whom Ornatus declared all that happened betwene him & Lucida: which added no little comfort to Alprinus heart, that hee thought himselfe of sufficient strength to go and meete with her: and therefore told Ornatus he would goe and meete with her, and withall yielded him so many thanks, as if by his meanes, his life had bene preserved.

In the meane time they continued in the Hermites Cave, Alprinus in great comfort, and Ornatus in no lesse care, for the absence of his deare Artesia, breaking forth many a scolding sige, and uttering many a sad and mournefull lamentation: sometimes bitterly despairing of attaining her loue, and then againe by remembryng her vertues, growing into some better confidence of her constancie. Yet most of all, fearing that Lenons loue to her, might either by perswasion of his death, force, affect of dignitie, or other meanes, winne her to consent to him, especially for that shee hadde no parenten to gouerne her, nor hee neuer a faithfull friende to counsaile her.

The next day Alprinus and hee went out to meete Lucida, to whom they met at the entrance into the Forrest, and after many kinde salutations past betwixt the two louers, they altogether went backe into the Towne, to Lucidaes Fathers house, who that morning was departed to a Hauen, about businesse of importance.

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Ornatus was most kindly vsed of them, remaining there untill Alprimus had wedded Lucida: but then hee thought it high time for him to depart: And on a time finding Alprimus alone, who had shewed sufficient tokens of his friendship, hee declared vnto him, the whole truth of his forpassed loue to Artesia, requesting his helpe, for his passage into Phrygia.

Alprimus with great regard, attended the whole discourse, promising his bittermost assistance: which (quoth hee) none can effect so well as Lucida, whose father is a merchant, and sendeth forth ships into sundrie Provinces, who onely may pleasure you: which charge I will undertake, and cause her to deale so effectually with him, that you shall attaine your desire. Ornatus continued in good hope, somewhat abandoning his former dispaire, whome for a time wee will leaue, attending the time that some of the ships should depart, to speake of Artesia his carefull Louer.

## CHAP. X.

How *Lenon* caused *Artesia* by violence to be caried from *Adellenaes* house, to the greene Fortresse: of the miseries she indured there. How shee was rescued from thence by *Allinus*, and from him taken by Pyrates. And how *Allinus* accused by *Lenon* for her death, was imprisoned.



After that Artesia by Adellenaes carefull reioyce had somewhat recovered her health, Lenon began to visit her againe, being unable to indure the heauie burthen of burning loue: thinking her swiftnesse had proceeded from tears of Floretus, not for want of Ornatus company, finding an occasion, saluted her in this sort. Most fairest Artesia, my heart is so firmly intyalled to your beaultie, and my affections so aduise your vertues, that I am constrained to bitter my minde, and to tell you, I loue your Beautie, Vertues, and other most rare.

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rare perfections wherewith you are adozned. What I humble sue to you for sauiour, and prostrate my selfe your thrall, desiring to be enriched with those Jewels of inestimable price: which hauing once attained, I shall thinke I had more wealth in my possession, then all the world besides my selfe, both containe. Your vnkinde buckles truellie, you need not teare, nor other misfortune: neither haue you any parents to ouerrule you in making your choise: then boughsate to accept my sute, and yeelde consent to my loue.

My Lord (replied Artesia) I thanke you for your good will, but I know not how to accept of your loue, being yet so far from knowing what it is, that if I should but dreame thereof, my heart would be out of quiet: besides, many cares continually attend the same, and my meane estate so farre vnworthy thereof, with innumerable other discontents and cares that I would make my selfe subiect vnto: that I had rather a thousand times remaine in the estate I am now in. Wherefore, I intreate you to settle your loue elsewhere, more agreeable to your estate and fancie: for I shall thinke my selfe most fortunate, if I neuer fall into that labyrinth of disquiet: but will during my life, labour to keepe my selfe free from loues bands. Lenon would not take this for an answer: but with many other speeches continued his sute, whom Artesia still put out of hope: that he departed for that time exceedingly discontented, leauing her no lesse disquieted in her thoughts how to auoid his loue.

In this sort did he daily visite her, still growing more importunate, amongst many other, this conference past betwixt them: Artesia (quoth he) how long shall I sue, and be frustrated in my hopes, by your vnkindnesse: is your heart hardened against me? Am I of so base conditions, that you cannot conceiue well of me? Is it possible you beare so hateful a conceit of loue as you make thewe for? then may I accuse mine eyes, that haue betrayed my senses, in making them your thrall: then may I thinke my woe began, when I first began to loue. And Artesia be not so cruel, as to punish me with this disdain.

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My Lord (replied she) I seeke not your dislike: for at the first motion I tolde you my minde, which shall neuer alter, neither is my heart hardened against you more then others: for I am determined not to loue: then seeing you for my intent, it were a point of wisdom in you to shake off this sonde and foolish loue, which is but a toy, and an idle fancie, that is bred by vanitie: and doe not seeke to make loue growe without a roote, for in my heart it shall neuer take roote: but rather when it is rooted, I will pull out heart and all, but I will rote it out. When (quoth he) you are led by obstinacie and not by reason, for that you are subiect to loue, you cannot denie: then why not me before another, considering my loue is more faithfull then any other? And I bring most worthy, why should I not be first accepted? Articia was wroth at his speeches, hauing her constant thoughts onely bent on Ornatus: therefore to rid him from her, she said; It is in vaine to vse many words, neither am I like to those that will at the first same roye, but afterwards yeelde: but I desire you to be satisfied with that which I haue already sayde, that I cannot loue.

Faire Damocell, how can I be satisfied with that unreasonable answer, when my life dependeth on your consent: which your deniall will finish: then giue mee leave to say, I cannot be so satisfied: but being extremely refused, I must growe perforce to be as unreasonable in my request. Consider you not what dignitie I might aduance you too, by making you my wife, consider you not the pleasures, ioyes, and abundance of all contents you might enjoy with me, and how faithfully I loue you, and with what humilitie I seeke your loue, and yet notwithstanding you remaine obdurate? My power is great, that whereas I see, I might commaunde, and by authoritie compell you to consent: then hee not soouerconceded, as so obstinate to reject your good. And think, that if my loue were not constant, I might vse extremes, which would soone alter your minde.

Suppose (replied Articia) I were so pained as you terme me,

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me, yet being borne free, I am not to be made bond by constraint: and were you the greatest king in the world, you could not rule the heart, though you might by iniustice punish the bodie: for it is not kingdomes, wealth, nor crueltie, can turne hatred to loue: but it may sooner turne loue into hatred. But by your speeches I may partly know your thought, and the lippes utter what the heart intendeth: doe with mee what you will, I cannot loue: neither will I loue you, were you Monarche of all the world.

Leon was so much grieved and vexed at her speeches, that hee was ready to tare his haire, his loues extremitie making him rather madde then sober, that presently hee departed, saying no more but this: Farewell hard-hearted Artesia.

Artesia was glad hee was gone, presently telling Adellena all that had past betwixt them: and how peremptorie shee had answered his importunate sute, telling Adellena, that since Ornatus was for her sake banished, shee would neuer loue any but him, and preserve her life in hope to see him once againe: but the first knowledge of his death, should be the latest date of her life: both thees and Adellena thinking that Leon would neuer returne to prosecute his loue. But hee being come to the Pallace, betooke himselfe to his chamber, raging more like a mad man, then a passionate louer, sometimes sweating, cursing, and stamping, yeelding so much to that mad fancie, that in the end, he vowed to obtaine Artesias loue, though he hazarded his life, honour, and good name: that ranging in this sort, vp and downe his Chamber, he espied an olde Gentlewoman, named Flera, going by his window, whom hee called vnto him, and thus saide. Flera, because I haue assured confidence in thy fidelitie; and purpose to reward thee liberally, I craue thy counsaile, and with it thy consent, to be faithful in concealing my secretes, and very diligent in doing my commaunde. The olde bagge making an euill fashioned lowe curtelle, sayd: My deare sonne Leon, be it to do you good,

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I will hazard my life, and rather bee to me into a thousande paces, then reueale what you shall vouchsafe to tell me. When (quoth he) counsaile me which way I should begin to win a faire Damofels loue. Parrie my Lord (quoth he) giue her knowledge thereof: and then with faire speeches wooe her: if that will not preuaile, giue her gold, and there is no doubt, that faire bayle will catch her.

So no (quoth he) these are of no force, I haue made my loue knowne to her, by humble sute, submisſe behauiours, and by all kinde of courteous meanes, intreated her consent: yet for all that, she remaineth obstinate: she is rich, and therefore gold with her is of no force: she is saye, vertuous, noble, and chaste: then what engine hast thou to vndermine that chastitie: I meane enough (quoth he) peradventure she is ruled by others counsell, which may preuaile more then your sute: but might I haue accesſe vnto her, I would not doubt but to alter her minde: for being faire, young and rich, she cannot chuse but delight to be payed: ſubiekt to loue, and therefore yeld to deſire. Doeſt thou thinke (quoth he) thou couldest winne her, wert thou her keeper: I warrant you, (quoth he) I would doe it.

When ſhalt thou bee her keeper, ſee that thou beeſt ſo morrowe at my fathers Caſtle in the greene foreſt, where to morrow by night this Damofell ſhall be, whose name is Artesia, daughter to Arbastus lately dead: vſe her kindly, let her want nothing: nor be not in any wiſe knowne that thou knoweſt mee: nor that the Caſtle belongeth to my Father: nor ſpeake not of loue in any caſe: vſe her in this ſort vntill I ſpeake with her, for thou onely ſhalt haue her cuſtodie. Flera being gone about her buſineſſe, he ſoūd out two of his truieſt ſeruants: to whom he imparted both his mind and intent: willing them the next morning with ſpeed to go to Adellenas houſe, and either by force or faire meanes to take Artesia from thence, and carrie her vnto the greene foreſt in the greene foreſt, where they ſhould find Flera, to to whole cuſtodie they ſhould comitt Artesia: and themſelues ſhould remaine there to prouide all things neceſſarie vntill his coming.

Early

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Early the next morning, the ſeruants rode to Adellenas houſe, whereinto they boldly entred, and coming to Artesia, firſt ſpoke her faire, but afterwards tolde her ſhe muſt goe with them, it not willingly, by conſtraint. Artesia then began to buſt into teares, weeping and lamenting exceedingly, vpon her knees intreating them, not to offer by violence to carry her from thence, but if they would needs, that they would take Adellena with them: but all was in vaine, for they conſtrained her to mount vpon be-hinde one of them, and alway they rode in great haſte: this heauie parting was ſo ſodaine, that Artesia coulde not a bid Adellena adue, but with teares, nor Adellena ſpeake a word for grieve, their ſences being ſo farre confounded with care, that their hearts were ready to buſt therewith. Artesia thought this was Lenons doing, and therefore ſorrowed the more: not that ſhe vſed her vnkindly, but that ſhe loved her, not fearing his crueltie, but his laſt: not regarding what crueltie ſhe coulde vſe by hatred, but fearing his loue would make him ſeek her diſhonour. Being come to the foreſt, and committed to the cuſtodie of Flera, the olde woman began to ſpeake her faire, and vſe her kindly, yet her berke wordes and countenance betraying her guiltie conſcience, to whom Artesia would not ſpeake a word, leaſt thereby ſhe ſhould giue her occaſion to prate: meate ſhe brought vnto her, but ſhe reſuſed to taſte thereof, and when ſhe came to her Chamber, ſhe laye on the ruſhes, reſuſing the bedde, tormenting her heart with care, vexing her head with thought, and buſying her ſences, or meditating to what iſſue this vſage would ſozle, ſometimes calling on Ornatus name for comfort, ſometimes accuſing Lenon of barbarous crueltie, and curſing her crooked deſenies: uttering ſuch plaints as would haue turned tyrants to ruth, weeping her eyes drye, and her garments wet, tearing her haire, and tormenting euery one of her ſences with vexation, reſuſing ſleepe, reſt, eaſe, or quiet.

The next day Lenon came thither, aſking Flera howe ſhe ſared. who tolde him that ſhe would not ſpeake, eaſe nor ſleepe, but ſared like one madde and ſenceleſſe. But let her alone quoth

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Shee, and you shall see this fitt to come be over, the extremitie whereof, being once past, I will use my skill to rele her.

Lenon giuing order to haue all thinges necessarie prouided, departed. Dinner time being come, and meate set before Artesia, she refused to eate: likewise supper time being come, she determined to do the like. Which Fiera perceiving, said: Fierze gentlewoman, to behold your outward appearance, would make one iudge your minde harbored many hidden vertues, but I comparing your actions with your apparant shewe, suppose that you are either mad or carelesse: this behaviour, to seeme dumbe, to refuse sustenance, and to restraime from sleepe, are instances of follie, not of wisdome. What if you speake, what if you bid eate, or take rest, should you be euer the worse? or restraining, can that do you good, or banish griefe, and not rather make your estate worse? do you thinke to preuent any thing by doing your selfe harme? no forde Childe, eate thy meate, and preserve thy life: for living thou maist attaine thy desires, but dying thou art past hope. With that she departed sailing.

Artesia hearing her speeches, beganne to consider in herde what follie it was to refuse her meate, and for feare to shorten her selfe by distemperating her selfe, which might be the meane to further Lenons intent, whome shee knewe would take her life, if hee could not winne her loue, shee presently left off suche desperate behaviour, and with well wayed consideration, attended the event of the worst misfortune, that from that time shee both eate her meate, and did all that shee could to comfort her selfe, still liuing in good hope of Ornatus returne.

Some fewe dayes after, Lenon came to the Forresterie againe, enquiring of Fiera howe Artesia fared. Well quoth shee, but you willed mee to conceale that it was your doing to bring her hither, and some bodie else hath tolde her thereof, for shee knoweth the truth as well as your selfe or I, and therefore I would wishe you to visite her, and after that let me

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me alone to perswade her.

Lenon was ruled by the olde woman, and came where Artesia was saluting her, but shee disvaing either to looke on him, or heare him speake, withdrew her selfe from his presence. Wherewith hee departed, willing Fiera to do that which shee had undertaken. And Fiera finding her as shee thought in a fit mood, beganne to continue with her of many thinges, amongst which loue was one. Artesia a while heard her, but in the end, perceiving her drift; cut her off with these speeches.

Disiniquite, I knowe whereto thy talks tendeth: thinkest thou I will euer harbour a thought of Lenon, that hath used mee thus dishonourably? no rather will I rent my wooll heart from out my brest before his face: neither needest thou tell mee that hee hath intreated thee to speake for him, for I knowe too well both his and thy intent, which shall nothing preuaile, but harden my heart against him. Wherefore doe not speake to me, for I will not heare thee, nor answer thee: but hate him, thee, and thy counsell, and remaine so constant in despising him, that a thousand deathes shall not alter mee. Is it loue that hath made him with violence carrie me from my friendes, make me a prisoner, and commit me to the custodie of such a hellish hagge as thy selfe? If that be his loue, let him turne it to hatred, and neuer trouble me, but with hating me: for in so doing, he shall better please me.

Often Fiera would haue replied, but Artesia would not suffer her, that shee beganne to waxe angrie, and in the end to plaine surie, that running to Artesia, she caught holde on her, and beganne to teare her garments from her bodie, and withall, caught sometimes such firme holde on her pure skinne with her nayles, that the blood followed: that Artesia began to crie and shrike for feare, and smart.

When the olde Bel dame had executed some part of her intended reuenge and crueltie upon her in this sort, shee saide:

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Thou gile, thinkest thou to beare it away with out-facing mee? No, do not thinke I will leane thee thus, but thou shalt repent that euer thou cammest hère, and befoze I goe, I will haue my minde of thee: then puld she out a knife, and catching holde on her, swoze, that vnlesse she would promise to vse Lenon kindly, when hee next came, she would cut her throte: which Diane Artesia into that feare, that she began to intreate her and speake faire, promising to condescend to any thing that agreed to her honour. Stand not vpon those nice tearmes with mee quoth Fiera, but here sweares to yelde to loue him, soz so thou maiest delay him, and frustrate his hopesfull expectation, whom thou art not worthy to touch, much lesse to beare such a presuming minde as thou doest, in scope of his loue. Wherefoze yelde to that which I request or stand to my mercy. Canst thou bestowe thy loue better then on so honourable a Prince? Canst thou attaine moze dignitie, reape moze content, or enioy moze quiet with any then with him? Then do not denie mee, soz I purpose not to be denied.

Artesia trembling for feare, made this answer onely to satisfie her, I am contented to be ruled by Lenon, whose meaning I knowe is honourable. Wherefoze I pray do not offer mee this outrage, but suffer me to liue in quiet vntill his coming. If this will not satisfie you, then do the worst you can: for death is moze welcome to mee then life in these extremities. Well quoth she, I will trie you, but if you dally, beware what will ensue, soz I am resolved what to do. Artesia was glad she had satisfied her, though it were with bittering words which she neuer intended to performe.

Adellena seeing how suddenly Artesia was taken from her, caused one of her seruants prauile to followe them to the Greene Foyrestre, who returning, tolde her what he had seene. When Adellena began to studie how to release her from thence, and with all haste rode to Allinus house, where being arrived, she declared al that she knew as concerning Ornatus, and how Lenon had carried Artesia by violence into the Greene Foyrestre. Allinus being glad to heare that Ornatus was aliué, promised to re-

turne

# Ornatus and Artesia.

Diane Artesia from Lenons custodie, and that to eff. it, the next evening caused his men to mount themselves, and himselfe with some five of them, disguised from being knowne, came to the Greene Foyrestre, and one of them knocking whilst the other hid themselves, the seruants little suspecting any such ambush or intent, opened the gate, when presently they rushed in, and soon found out Artesia, whom Allinus told who he was, and to what intent he came: Artesia was glad thereof, and willingly yeldd to go with him, but the olde woman made such an outcrie, that all the place rung thereof: one of Allinus seruants seeing she would not be pacified, drew his sword and thrust it through her bodie, and so with a yelling crie, she gaue vp the ghost. When presently Allinus departed with her, intending to carry her to his owne house, to keepe her there vnkowne, vntill he could heare of Ornatus. And remembryng that the two seruants were fled, and would no doubt certifie Lenon what was done, would not go backe the same way hee came, though the readiest, soz then hee thought hee should meete them, but went a moze secret way, thinking by that means to passe vnscane, and entring into the plaines where cattell fed, Allinus espied a company comming towards them, whom hee presently suspected to be Lenon, which in reason he could not thinke, but that feare perswaded him thereto: the company likewise espying them (who were certaine Pyrates that were wandred from their shippes to steale cattel) wondered what they should be that were so late abroad, and being reable to any mischief, set vpon Allinus and his company, who thinking it had bene Lenon would by no meanes yelde, nor speake, fearing he should deserue them, but resisted the Pyrates, who being bled to many such meetings, soon slew two of Allinus seruants and had giuen himselfe many greuous wounds, enforcing him to yelde. Who taking from him all that was good, constraining Artesia to go with them, and hasted to their ships, when hauing conueyed her aboard, to preuent the worst, hoysed saile, and launched into the deepe. When was Allinus left in most miserable estate, with all speed hastning to his house, Lenons seruants like-

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wife were by that time it was midnight gotten to the Pallace, and called their Lord out of his bedde, to certifie him what was happened, who presently mounted himselfe, and with a sufficient company rode to the fforresse, and entring, found Fleraaine, and all else fled, then began he to enquire who should do that deed, and what they should be that had carried away Artesia: by this time it was day-light, and Lenon rested in exceeding passion to be dispossessed of his bewisfull Loue, yet he commanded his men to passe by companies seuerall waies, if it were possible to finde those that had done that deed: whilst he himselfe remained there betwailing that misfortune, his seruants had not rode far: but by the light of the day, which discovereth things done in darknesse they found Allinus two seruants, whose dead bodies they carried back to the fforresse. Lenon seeing them, presently assured himselfe that Allinus was a partie in this action, and that hee had taken away Artesia to seeke her death. To preuent which mischiefe (as he thought then or neuer to be done) hee presently rode home to the Court, and humbly vpon his knees, intreated his father to graunt him licence with a sufficient power to rescue Artesia from Allinus, who intended to murder her, declaring how he himselfe found her in Adellenas house, and how that he had placed her in the greene fforresse, to defend her from Allinus and others cruellie, being left fatherlesse: and how that night Allinus had taken her from thence by treason, and intended no lesse then her ruine. The king hearing his sonnes speeches graunted his request. When presently officers to the number of three hundred men, with as much spee as could possibly be, armed themselves, and in haste with Lenon, went to Allinus Castle, into which they violently and without any within entred. Lenon presently laide hands on Allinus, who in the bounde soze wounded asking him for Artesia, who thinking some of his seruants had before betrayed what he had done, presently confessed the truth of all, both of his intent, and howe Artesia was rescued from him, but by whom hee knewe not, and howe at that time two of his seruants wereaine.

Lenon

## Ornatus and Artesia.

Lenon giuing no credit to his speeches, neuer left till hee had searched the whole Castle throughout, but not finding her, accused Allinus that he had murdered her, commanding his men to binde him, and carry him as a Traytor to the Court. Who being come before the king, confessed the truth as before he had done, bitterly denying that hee neuer sought Artesias death, but her safetie: but yet notwithstanding the king was so overruled by Lenons accusations and perswasions, that he committed him to prison, his goods and lands were seized vpon as a Traytor, his Ladie wife turned out of doores in worse array, and all cruellie and outrage committed against his seruantes and himselfe, and commandement giuen, that none should succour them. Allinus being in prison laden with yrons, and hardly vled, yet endured that affliction patiently, but hearing of his Ladies calamitie, and how she was vnnaturally constrained to beg. that all her life long had bene tenderly brought vp, thought those sorowes would soone bring her to an ende, and entered into many bitter lamentations for her and his owne misfortune, which were so tedious to recite, his seruants were constrained to disguise themselves, and trauell into farther places of the Countrey to liue vnknewne, otherwise none would haue entertained them. His Ladie was compelled to seeke out hinds women of hers, that liued in the countrey, of whom she was entertained, and there liued a poore life, far differing from her former life, which she took most patiently. And thus was Allinus house defaced, his goods and lands seized vpon, himselfe imprisoned, his wife in poore estate, his seruants diuened to wander from place to place, ready often to perith for want of succour and all his dignitie turned to miserie, onely by Lenons malice: who had no ground for those accusations he vled against him, but onely of a vaine suppose, and mad frantickie affection that overruled his heart, which so much prevailed with him, that he sought by all meanes he coulo, his death.

CHAP.

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## CHAP. XI.

How *Ornatus* gatte shipping into *Phrygia*. Howe *Allinus* was set at libertie: and how the Pyrates cast lottes who should possesse *Artesia*.



**O**rnatus all this while remained in the countrey of *Natolia*, with *Alprinus* and *Lucida*, in great griefe, for want of meanes to depart into *Phrygia*, to see what was become of his deare Love *Artesia*: but being a long time frustrated by reason none of the ships that were at sea came home, he began to despair, thinking that *Artesia* supposing him to be dead by reason of his long absence, would now marry *Lenon*, which griefe, and many other doubtfull thoughts oppress his heart with such passion, that he began to waxe sicke, and afterwards fell into an exceeding feuer, which held him for the space of thre moneths in great extremities, which sorely had abridged his dayes: had hee not bene most carefully nourisht by *Lucida*, who had an especiall care of his good. During which time of his sickness, certaine ships of *Phrygia* arrived on the coast of *Natolia*, some fourtene miles distant from the Towne where *Ornatus* was, of which he had intelligence by certaine factors belonging to *Lucidas* father, which newes renewed his spirits with joy, before djouping with care, that within few dayes he recovered his former health, which greatly reioiced *Alprinus* and *Lucida*, whose hearts were linked vnto him, in bands of vnseparable friendship: who likewise dealt so effectually for him, that they attained warrant for his passage, and furnished him with all kinde of necessaries, and sufficient store of gold to beare his charges.

*Lucida* likewise intreating her father to agree with the *Phrygian* Merchants for his conuoy, so that himselfe would not be knowne,

# Ornatus and Artesia.

knowne, disguising himselfe into the habit of a pilgrime, which kinde of people, might without disturbance passe vnexamined, and without molestation. And the time of his departure being come, he took his leave of *Lucida*. Who took his departure with such exceeding sorrow, that the abundance of her flowing teares stoppt the passage of her speech. *Alprinus* likewise with many curtesses bid him farewell, and wished his prosperous success. Thus departed he the confines of *Natolia*, where he was in so short space so well beloved, and so kindly vied, that had not his love to *Artesia*, and hope to finde her in safely constrained him, he could haue bene contented to haue spent the terme of his life in that place.

The Merchants of *Phrygia* had not sailed many dayes, but they arrived in a haven some ten myles distant from the Court, whither *Ornatus* determined to trauell, and having taken his leave of the Merchants, and paid them their due, furnished with all things fit for his disguise, he took his journey, and the first night lodged at a village neere adjoyning to his fathers Castle, the custome of which place he well knewe before, and therefore framed his behaviour accordingly. And being set at supper amongst such guests as lodged in that house with him, the Host named *Mylo*, suddenly sight, which one of them noting, demanded what inward griefe drowne him thereto. Wherby he quoth he; If you haue not already heard the newes, I will tell you so much as I knowe, which I would I had neuer knowne. Within few dayes there dwelt an auncient knight heereby named *Allinus*, exceedingly well beloved of all men, who is lately fallen into great miserie, the occasion whereof was this, then did he declare the manner of all that had happened vnto *Allinus*, how *Artesia* was taken from him, but by whom no man knewe, himselfe in prison, his goods confiscated, and his wife & seruants turned out of doores, with commaund that none should succour them.

*Ornatus* heart was so pincht with this newes, that hee was ready to fall vnder the Table, which olde *Mylo* and the rest noted, perceiving such a change of countenance in him, that they

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all denied him to be exceedingly sicke: but he fearing to discouey himselfe, told them it was but an ordinarie course with him, to be so troubled: but being unable to mitigate that passion, he rose from the table, and gat to his chamber, where being alone, he began to meditate the depth of these mischances, imputing the originall thereof to proceed from himselfe: What he entred into these bitter plaintes. By misfortunes are without compare, and I more miserable then any wretched king: By my euill destinies, Artesia was first left in miserie, afterwards imprisoned, and now surprised by those that will intend her ruine, or dishonour. My father imprisoned, my mother banished: all his landes, liuings, seruants, and friends, taken from him, and he subiect to Lenons merke, that is mercilesse, cruell, deceitfull, and malicious.

Quell by my follie, are these mischances befallen. Can there then be any more wretched then my selfe: hath not my father cause to wissh that he had neuer begotten mee, and my mother that she had neuer borne me: hath not Artesia cause to accuse me, hate me, and forsake me: When for my sake, by my follie, and want of wisdom, she is brought to so many miseries? What shall I doe: or what remedie shall I take, when all things is past recure: Whome may I blame, but my selfe: Is there any that is interrested in the cause of these woes, but my selfe: Lenon, Lenon, as well as my selfe, hath procured these euils: his affection to Artesia, hath caused my banishment, my parents woe, and her losse. To trauell in her search, and leaue my father in prison, the one would be in vaine, when I knowe not whither she is conueied, and the other dangerous to his safety: for Lenon no doubt of mallice will seeke his death.

In these and such like plaints hee spent most part of that night.

Earlye the next morning comming out of his Chamber, he heard a great tumult in that Village: the occasion whereof, was this: Such as were Tennants and friends to Allinus, hearing of his vnlawfull imprisonment, and with what crueltie Lenon

# Ornatus and Artesia.

non sought his overthrow, assembled themselves together, with purpose to intreat the King for his release: that in the end there was three hundred of them assembled. The common people, and such as were idle persons, and ready to any attempt, misconceiving their intent, and bearing a minde desirous of libertie, which they thought they were restrained from, by certain strict lawes the King had made, gathered vnto them, that contrarie to their expectation, there was a multitude: the intent of whose assembly, being demanded, they answered, that they meant to redeme Allinus: amongst whom, Ornatus in his disguise, thrust himselfe, using many forcible perswasions to vge them forwardes to that attempt. That they were ready to ruine confusible to the Court, not regarding daunger, nor the displeasure of the King.

One of Allinus friends named Thrasus, standing vpp amongst the rest, craued audience, to whom they all listened, whilst he said.

I perceiue your intent is to release Allinus, wherein you shall shewe your loue to him, and doe a deed worthy to be eternized, for that he hath not at all deserved to haue such iniustice ministered vnto him: therefore be wise in this attempt, and first know against whom you beare armes: that is, against your lawfull King, who may punish this fact with death: for that wee undertake to breake those lawes which he hath ordained. But followe my counsell, and I will sette you downe a course, whereby you shall attaine your desire, and be voyde of any such daunger, which is this. First lette vs all repaire to the Court, and humble intreate the King for his release, if hee will not graunt that, then that hee would haue his cause tryed by the rest of the Peeres of the land: Which if hee also denye, then may wee with good cause venture our liues in his rescue: The multitude hearing Thrasus, in signe of consent, all cryed, Thrasus, Thrasus, Shall be our Captaine.

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When presently enerie one with such furniture as they had, hasted to the Court, and coming together, would not seeme to enter by force, but with a full consent yielded to Thrasus directions. Who desired one of the guard to certifie his Maestie that there were a number of his subjects gathered together, with no intent of euill, but onely humbly to craue a boone at his highnesse hand. The King being certified hereof, was much troubled in his minde what the thing shoulde be they would demand, and being perswaded by Lenon, would not himselfe come out, but sent one of his Knights to demand what was there request. Thrasus declared vnto him the cause of their coming, and what they demanded. Which when the King vnderstood, being exceedingly enraged at their boldnesse, bad the knight make them this answer, that he was not by his subjects to be controlled, and therefore denied to performe the least of their demand: commanding them presently to depart every man to their severall place, least he punished their presumption with death. The messenger had not scarce ended his wordes, but presently the vnruly multitude began to rish in at the Court gates, some carelesly ruminating whatsoeuer came next hand, some breaking downe windows, some assailing such as resisted them, and every one bent to do mischief. The King fearing the peoples vnruly rebellion, would turne to some greater mischief then could suddenly be prevented, and might also in danger his person, not knowing who had incited them thereto, with the Quene and Lenon fled. Which when Thrasus knew, calling to the multitude, he tolled them in any wise not to destroy the Kings house, nor attempt any thing worse to displease his Maestie, so that the King was departed, and he had Allinus at libertie. But notwithstanding some bent onely to enrich themselves, spoiled the Kings treasure, and utterly defaced the house: by which time the night beseigh, and every one began to withdraw themselves. Allinus seeing what exceeding mischief this attempt had bred, which was done contrary to his thought, and without his consent, yet thought it best not to trust to the Kings mercie, though he were

never

# Ornatus and Artesia.

never so innocent, for notwithstanding that he would suppose it was done by his procurement, therefore (after Thrasus had willed the vnruly multitude to depart as secretly as they could, every one to his house, to prevent further danger & save their lives, by keeping themselves unknowne) he and Thrasus that night, without delay disguised themselves, and fled towards the coast to get shipping for Armenia, whither they intended to travell.

Ornatus was by and beheld all this, glad of his fathers escape, not purposing at all to discover himselfe, untill he had found Artesia, in whose search he meant presently to travell: but such confused thoughts, whither to direct his steps, did so overwhelme his conceits, that he resembled like one metamorphosed, not knowing whether he would seek her by sea or by land. By sea he thought his labours would be in vaine, and if he should go to finde her by land, he knew not whether she might be at sea, and so conveyed into foraine Countreies. At last remembryng he had heard Mylo say she was rescued from Allinus in the desert where his Castell sed, he determined to travell thither, though he had little hope to finde her there. And being come thither, sometimes bewayling her absence, accusing his hard fortune, beseighing with bitter sighs in remembrance of her losse, and renewing the remembrance of their love, he spent some three daies in that place, uttering those plaintes to the trees and birds, nor otherwise there was none to heare him. Where for a while we will leave him.

The Pyrates having as is before saide, taken Artesia from Allinus, and with her such wealth as they could find about them, having withall furnished themselves with the spoyle of such Castell as sed in those places, returned to their ship, and with hastes haply saile, the night being now past. One that was chiefe amongst the rest, named Luptates, went downe to visite Artesia, having as yet not seene her beawtie by reason of the night, and now coming neare her, and beholding her daunsesome, his mind was presently ravished with that sight, and he thought that none but himselfe shoulde enjoy her, which took such efficacie, that whereas before he intended nothing but her dishonour, his

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minde was now altered, and he intended to vse her in most reuerent and decent sort, and not by cruellie, but curtesie, to winne her loue. But beholding her teares, and exceeding lamentation, and how impatientlie she endured the extremities she was giuen vnto, comming towards her with a most submisse gesture, friendlie countenance, and gentle speech, he said. Faire Lady, be not any thing disquieted that you are made captiue to such as delight in spoyle, for though our mindes are otherwise bent to all inciuilltie, yet to your selfe shall no wrong be offered, such vertue hath betwixt us imprinted in my heart, and whereas heretofore without mercede, both I and the rest of my consort haue not regarded the plaints, distresse, nor what wrong wee haue offered either to Ladies or damosell, yet towards your selfe is my heart altered, and my meaning honestly bet: that I assure you not onely of quiet, and to be free of all wrong by vs to be done, but also, wherein soeuer I may work your will, quiet, ease, or desire, I will most willingly imploy my bittermost indeuours. When I beseech you mitigate these cares, bannish this sorrow, & drye vp your teares: for you haue no cause of care, nor occasion of sorrow: but rather to say, this vertue resteth in me, to alter rude and barbarous mindes, to ciuill & virtuous behauior. Artesia looking earnestly vpon him, being indured with an exceeding wit, and thinking it best to speak him faire that vsed her so kindly, said. Sir, I know not how to mitigate my grief, when it increaseth: or how can I be free of care, vntill I should grow altogether carelesse, being only subject to woe, & none so vnfortunate as my selfe, hauing endured so many afflictions & crosses in all respects, that I know not how to assure my selfe of the least quiet? When giue me leaue to continue my enuious plaints, & do not blame me of impatiencie, nor think I suspect your speeches, or distrust your fidelitie, if in some sort I continue my sorowes: for I haue so long continued in them, as I can better atwain with the then mirth: for that to me is a stranger. Yet notwithstanding my heart will harbour some quiet, if by your curtesie I may rest in securitie, and be sheltered from wrong. By this time they were arrived at their place of harbour, which was betwixt the hollow

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of two Rocks, or rather Rockie Islands, where their ship lay safe from weather, and so farre vnder their shadowe, that it could not be seene. Themselues conceyning such wealth as they from time to time got into hollow Caves, of great largenesse, where was all things necessarie, and the rest of Lurates fellows called him bp. When hauing fastned their ship, Lurates brought Artesia into the Cae, who beholding the same, was surprised with an exceeding discomfort, of euer getting from thence.

Some of the ruder sort liking Artesia, began their rude behauiour towards her, but Luratus stepping vnto them, vttered these speeches. My masters, thus long haue I liued your Captaine in this place, with care respecting your good as much as mine owne, and taking but an equall share with you, of such prizes as wee haue taken, and rather the least part, now onely in respect of my faith and fidelitie, I request to haue this Damosell as my prize, the rest of the wealth take you. In doing which, you shall binde mee vnto you for euer. One of the rest liking Artesiaes betwixt as well as he, and of a more rude minde, disdaining that he alone should haue her possession, said. Captaine, all which you say wee confesse to be true: neither hath our care bin any way lesse the yours: therfore, there is no reason why you should claime any peculiar priuiledge aboue any of vs: besides, you knowe wee made a law, and bound our selues to performe the same by oath, which was, that none should possesse any thing without the general consent of vs all. When performe those conditions, and let her belong to vs all, or to the chiefe of vs, & in so doing, neither of vs shall sustaine wrong: thus began they to contend about Artesia, every one desirous to possesse her, & yet neither willing any should haue her but himselfe, that they were likely to mutinie and fall out, till at the last they concluded to cast lots, & she fell to Lurates share, that was the most worthy of that priuiledge, for that hee bare the most virtuous mind. Thus for a time this strife was ended, and Artesia was by Lurates kindly vsed for many daies: in the end their victuals began to waste, & they thought it high time to seek for more, & they determined to fetch in some as before they had done.

But

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But then began Luprates to take care in whose custodie to leave Artesia, least in his absence they should do her wrong. Amongst the rest he chose out one whom he thought fittest, and to him he committed her, by whose meanes Artesia rested voyd of disturbance, though not void of exceeding care that continually tormented her, fearing neuer to see Ornatus againe, nor to be released from that place of bondage.

## CHAP. XII.

How *Ornatus* found *Artesia*, and preserved her life: and how shee was againe taken from him by *Lenon*, and what afterwards befell.



**L**uprates and the rest, being landed, came in the night into the plaines to the castle, and by chauce lighted on the place where Ornatus haunted, being directed to him by the sound of his lamentations: Luprates demanded what he was, I am (quoth he) a most miserable forlorne creature, by misfortune vtained to all extremities. When quoth

he, art thou not of our company: and with that they departed, leaving him there. Ornatus heart began presently to misdoubt that they were the very same that had taken Artesia from Allinus which made him presently studie how to haue them apprehended: remembering that he had heard many complaints that their castle were often stolne, he supposed verily them to be the thieves, that with all the haste he couid, he ranne to the next village and raised the Townes-men, telling them what he had seene, who presently issued out, and with such weapons as came next to hand followed the Pyrates, and soon found them, setting vpon them, took two of them, and the rest, some sore wounded & hurt, fled to their shippe, and with all the haste they couid gat to their harbour.

Early

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Early the next morning, the inhabitants conueied the Pyrates to the Court, who being come before the King, confessed the manner of the life, and where they liued. When Lenon presently supposed, that they were the very same that had taken Artesia from Allinus, and demanding the same of them, they tolde him that there was such a Damosell in their Cane, and that shee tolde them her name was Artesia. When Lenon without delay strongly accompanied, rode to the next Haven, and there gat shipping by the Pyrates directions, to finde out their fozt. Ornatus likewise, after he had raised the people, secretly followed the Pyrates vnto the place, where their ship lay, and amongst the rest entered the same: who by reason of their haste & exceeding feare, regarded him not, who thrust himselfe into that daunger, onely to see if Artesia were in their custodie, not reking how his life might be endangered thereby, but the Pyrates by Luprates directions, halled to the fozt, and from thence took Artesia into their shippe, not daring to stay there, for that they knew some of their fellows were taken, who might by compulsion be constrained to reueale the place of their abode.

Ornatus no sooner espied Artesia, but he knew her, and his heart leapt within him for joy to see that happle sight, but he durst not speake to her, nor scarce settle his eyes to behode her, for feare of suspect, for that Luprates meruailed how hee came amongst them: demanding what hee was, and what hee made there: I am (quoth hee) a poore Pilgrim, that against my will was by some of this company constrained to come aboard.

Luprates believing he said true, made no farther question, but with hast sayled from Phrygia, conueying Artesia into his Cabin, vjing many speeches to comfort her.

They hadde not sayled many houres, but a contrary winde began to arise, and the Heauens were darkened with thicke Cloudes, and such a mightie tempest arose, that the shippe was by violence driuen backe, they maine Mast broken and throwne ouerboarde, and all in daunger of destruction, had not the land bene neare, for the shippe driuen

by

by

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by violence of the Sea, ranne a grounde, and there splitte in sunder, and the Pyrates with great hazard escaped drowning: none of them nor Luprates once regarding Artesia, but Ornatus seeing in what perill she was, caught holde on her, and getting on to a planke, being withall somewhat skillfull to swimme, with much adoe gatte on to the firme lande, and preserved her from a miserable death by drowning.

He was no sooner past danger, but Luprates would have taken her from him, but Ornatus seeing none but himselfe there, & all the rest fled for feare, tolde him since he had forsaken her in extremite, he was not worthy of her, and therefore should not have her. Willaine (quoth Luprates) give her me with quiet, or else thy life shall not deserve her. With that Ornatus caught holde on a sword which he cleft in sunder with his sword, and with the same gave Luprates so suddaine and deadly a wounde, that the paine fell about the place, and he died. By this time the storme was quite overpast, and Ornatus seeing his deare Love verie weake with feare and disemperature, by the arme led her unto a mossie banke, where the Sunnes bright beames had full soxe to dye her garments dropping with wet.

Artesia seeing howe tenderly this stranger regarded her, and with what paine he had preserved her, when she was of all but him forsaken, being willing to shewe that she was gratefull, said. Sir the paines you have taken, and friendship you have shewed to me, deserve moze thanks and recompence then I am able to give: and therefore I desire you to thinke, that if I were able I would requite the same: but my misfortunes are so exceeding, that they withhold me from doing that I would: onely thanks is the small requisall I can give in token of a gratefull minde: being by your meanes at moze quiet then many dayes I have bene, though moze disquietted then you would iudge: but now I relye upon your vertues, with hope thereby to be preserved, and not given to further miserie.

Like Ladies, (quoth Ornatus) my life shall be spent in your defence, neyther will I parte from you untill I have brought

you

# Ornatus and Artesia.

you to the place which you desire, requesting you to make no doubt of my loyalty. I suppose your name is Artesia, because (quoth she) in my travels I have met a Gentleman of this country named Ornatus, of whom I learned the truth of many of your misfortunes: who I assure you is in good health. Blessed newes (quoth she,) then will I hope once againe to see my deare Ornatus, whose absence hath bene my onely cause of woe.

She had scarce ended those words, but Ornatus espied a ship even then come a shore, where theirs was cast away, most of the men landed, which was the shippe wherein Lenon was, who beheld the other shippe cast away, and the storme being ceased arrived there. From whence Ornatus knewe not howe to hide himselfe: and Artesia not so much as thinking Lenon had bene in it, but that it was some ship that likewise by the storme was driven to lande there. Presently the men beganne to speeke themselves every way, and some of them sawe espied Artesia, giving Lenon knowledge thereof, who immediately came towards her, most kindly saluting her, but she being exceedingly dismayed with his sight, whome she most mortally hated, for verie griefe burst into teares, that in abundance gushd from her eyes.

Lenon maruelling thereat, (and little thinking howe much she hated him, and howe untelcome he was) rather expecting thanks for his paines then repulse, said; My deare Artesia, bee not now discomfited, since there is no further cause of care, I have most diligently laboured to release you from griefe ever since Allinus by treason conveyed you from my custody: taking your absence in great heavinesse, for that it pinched my heart to thinke you should be fall into such a distresse: but now that all those misfortunes are past, I beseech you goe with mee to the Court, where I will labour to procure your content.

Artesias heart was vexed to heare his speeches, that she made him this answer.

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Most discourtous Lenon, none but your selfe are cause of my woe, whose sight moze tormenteth mee, then all the afflictions I euer endured: Allinus carried me indeed from the Greene fforest, not by treason, but to shelter me from dishonour, which you did intend; else would you not haue suffered me to endure such miseries as I did by my bellicke keeper. Thinke you I haue cause either to thinke you intend my good, or take any comfort by your presence, when you onely disquiet me, not suffering me to enjoy my libertie, but would perforce constrain me to that I cannot like. Had you left me in Adellenas house, then had I not fallen into such miseries as since that I haue endured, nor Allinus for his vertue haue bene brought to pouertie, that being before my professed enemy, seeing my miserie, it so mollified his heart, that he hath pittied me, and sought my libertie, and onely by cruelty, not by iustice, haue you sought his overthrow. When I beseech you leaue me here, for I had rather indure the hazard of my misfortunes, then liue to be tormented with your importunacie. Lenon was so amazed to heare her unkind reply, little thinking he had bene so much out of her fauour, that he could not tel what to say: sometimes thinking to leaue her there, and utterly to forsake her, but that thought was soon overcome by his affection or violent sting of desire to enjoy her loue: that once againe he said; Why Artesia doe you regard my good will no moze, then for my paines, to geide me rebukes; and for my loue, dishaine? What I caused you to be brought from Adellenas house, was, for that bring there you were subiect to many misfortunes. And if I imprisoned Allinus, it was for that I supposed him your enemy, and feared he would haue done you wrong: so that whatsoeuer I did with intent of good, you repay me with dislike: & conuert all my doings to the worst meaning: wherein you shewe your selfe too cruel, that will not yeild me the least fauour for my constant loue. Artesia be not so hard hearted, Artesia notwithstanding many faire promises, bowes, and protestations he made, would not yeild to go with him, but desired rather that he would leaue her there. Lenon tolde her, though not for his sake,

yet

# Ornatus and Artesia.

yet for her safetie, it were best for her to goe: which said, he commaunded his seruants to place her in a Litter. Which when she sawe she must needs doo, she called to Ornatus, saying: Good Palmer go along with mee, that for the kindnesse you haue shewn in preserving my life, I may yeild you some recompence. And (quoth she) to Lenon, I request nothing of you for my selfe, but for this strange Pilgrim, who when by the storme the ship was cast away, I ready to perish, caught me out of the water and preserved my life: and do not for his good will to me, vse him as you did my deare Syluian, whom you banished, for that she preserved my life from my unkind vnckle, with that she wept exceedingly. When Lenon asked Ornatus what hee was, I am (quoth hee) as you see, a Pilgrim, that was forced to come aboard the Pyrates ship, and (amongst the rest) was ready to perish, but that by the diuine prouidence, I was ordained to preserve that vertuous Damocles life. For that deede quoth Lenon, I will reward you most kindly: therefore go along with vs, When they all departed to the Court. Lenon presently caused Artesia to be lodged in a most sumptuous place of the Court, appointing diuers Damocles to attend her, thinking by those meanes to win her to consent to loue him: but all proued vaine, his care was cast away, his cost to little effect, and his kindnesse vnraged. For Artesia was so constant to Ornatus, that she hated Lenon: her heart was wholly imployed to wish his good, and Lenons ill. For she determined neuer to loue him, though she were assured of Ornatus death: that she spent her time in continuall care & sadnesse, shewing no signe of ioy, no shewe of comfort, but even as one that regarded no rest, nor took felicitie in any thing, that Lenon both admired the same, and laboured by many meanes to alter that humour: but the moze he sought to please her, the moze she was displeased: and moze discontented at his kindnesse then any thing else. In this sort she continued many dayes, without the least shewe of alteration.

Ornatus all this while remaining in the Court, (making the cause of his state) to receiue Lenons promised reward, whereas

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indeed he feared to see what would become of Artesia, or by what meanes to get her from thence. To effect which, he sawe no possible meanes, nor could in many dayes come to see Artesia, which filled his heart with griefe: only comforted himselfe with remembering her constant loyalty. And one day being by himselfe alone, he entered into these cogitations. Ornatus thou hast remained many dayes in this place, kept from thy Love, and sought no meanes to set thy heart at rest, or her at libertie. Wilt thou make no more account of her loue, then to attempt nothing to attaine the same? or are thy spirits of no more courage? then they will do nothing: thy wit so shallow, thou canst devise no stratageme, or thy mind so cowardly, thou darrest not reuenge the wrong Lenon doth thee? What though he be the Prince and heire of this land, is not both hee and his father hated, ruling by usurpation, and with crueltie, not with iustice, hath sought the downe-fall of thy house? Can Artesia thinke either valour or vertue to rest in thee, when she shall know how neare thou art her foe, but darrest not touch him? Will she not esteeme thee a coward and unworthy to enjoy her loue? Say when she knoweth this, will she not alter her loue? Why shouldst not thou seeke thy owne content, though it be with his discontent? thou art every way as good as hee by birth, though hee now rule the land: hath not thy father said, that his father was but a Captaine in the last Kings dayes, and by treason put his lawfull King to death, and so wanne the role? When Ornatus reniue thy spirittes, seme not dismayed with any danger feare not misfortune, seeke to release thy Love, and venture thy life therein: for living thus thou shalt be deprived of her loue. Lenon will by force or false meanes overcome her, and then makest thou blame this delate. The King is now sicke, and hee being dead, Lenon must raigne, who then may do what hee list. When take the advantage of the time, and do not frustrate thy blessed hopes with doothfull delate. Having ended this meditation, he then began to studie how to performe his will: wherein hee found many contrarieties. But presently he beheld Lenon entering the Court, before whome he stood so opposite, that he could

not

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not chuse but note him, and withall remembered how earnestly Artesia had intreated him on the Pilgrims behalfe, inwhome he thought she esteemed, and therefore suddenly this cogitation arose in his fancie, to vse him as an instrument to win her loue: that calling Ornatus vnto him, hee said: Pilgrim, I pray thee blame me not for forgetting to performe my promise made to Artesia as concerning thee, which I haue not neglected for want of good will, but by reason of thousands of cares that daily torment me, only procured by her unkindnesse: but if thou wilt undertake on my behalfe to perswade her to yelde to my last request, for that I thinke thou maist preuaile with her above any, I will not onely reward thy former kindnesse so shewen to her, but also for thy paines herein, promote thee to high dignitie. Wherefore I pray thee giue consent to follow my counsel herein. Ornatus was willing to be employed in that businesse, which fell out according to his hearts desire: and therefore made him this answer. My Noble Lord, for that I perceiue your intent is good, I will be ready to follow your directions, and do you any service I can: wherein I know not whether I shall proue fortunate or no: but assuring you that I will deale both faithfully and effectually in that which I shall undertake.

Lenon was as glad as he, that he yeldest to do that which he thought least to performe: and therefore presently gave command, that the Pilgrim onely should haue her in custodie, Artesia marvelled that her keepers were changed, misdoubted some intent of hard usage, but seeing it was the Pilgrim that now had her custody, her heart was comforted.

CHAP.

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## CHAP. XIII.

How *Ornatus* had the custodie of *Artesia*: how he discouered himselfe vnto her: how *Allinus* and *Trafus* arriued in *Armenia*, and gat the King to send Ambassadors into *Phrygia*.



*Ornatus* at his first comming, found her sitting in the darrest corner of the Chamber, bewailing her misfortune, with salt teares bedewing her purple cheeks: her ornaments disorderly put on, and her golden tresses hanging carelesly downe, which added betwix to her sweete beawtie, and though disorderd, most comely. Leaning her arme vppon a Chaire, and her cheekes laide vppon the backe of her hand: when he beheld her sitting in this discomfortable sort, his hart was ready to melt with remorse: and he breathed forth so bitter a sigh, that she heard the same, which he perceiuing came towards her with humble behanionr, saying. Most vertuous Ladie, pardon my presumption, in presuming thus vnmanly to interrupt your quiet: Lenon the Prince hath appointed me to be your attendant, therefore I beseeche you, notwithstanding I am his substitute: command me in any doubtful sort, and I will most willingly employ my bittermost induours to purchase your content. *Artesia* raising her selfe from the ground, said. Pilgrim, I thanke you for your kinde profer, and am glad you are my keeper, for two causes: one, for that I trust your vertues will not suffer me to be injured, the other, for that I would heare out your discourse of my deare friend *Ornatus*, which I was hindered from by Lenons suddaine finding me. Ladie, quoth he) you shalbe assured of the one, and heare moze of the other, if first you will vouchsafe without offence, to heare my speech, and suffer me to execute the charge Lenon hath giuen mee, and I haue vnder taken. Why what is that

# Ornatus and Artesia.

that (quoth *Artesia*) I wil not be offended: Lenon hath made knowne to me his loue, and how long, and with what constancie it is grounded, commaunding and intreating me in his behalfe to become an humble later vnto you: he telleth me that til you vngently disdaine him without cause, reason, or consideration. Therefore I humbly desire, both for that he is constant, a Prince, and of good and vertuous gifts, yelde to his loue or else to satisfie me of the chiefeest reasons that withhold you from the same. Pilgrim (quoth she) for that my minde perswadeth me, you in wisdom will conceale of reason: and will be faithfull in concealing that which I shall disclose: I answered you thus. First, admit Lenon did loue mee (yet by his blage I finde the contrary) nor I cannot fancie him, for that I already haue plighted my faith to another, moze worthy then himselfe, which is that most vertuous & kinde Gentleman *Ornatus*, who likewise equalleth me in affection: and therefore I should dishonour my name, breake my faith, and reape perpetuall infamy, if I should sweare my selfe so inconstant. These I thinke are reasons (to a reasonable creature) sufficient, and of such force, as none can contradict: and therefore no moze can be said therein. Besides were not all this so, you haue no reason to perswade me to that which I haue so often denied, and will neuer yeld vnto. Your reasons (indeed quoth he) are great, and the cause such, as should no way be violated: but now you are subiect to his merce: and he may inforce you to that which you are most vnwilling to haue done: then what remedie haue you, but rather to yelde, then endure such extremitie as he may vse: Yes quoth she) when I can preferre my selfe no longer from his last, death shall rid mee from his power, which I will execute vpon my selfe, rather then condescend to yeld him so much as an outward shewe of fauour. Therefore I pray vse no moze words tending to the breach of my faith, and furtherance of his loue, for knee you but how hatefull his name were vnto me, and howe odious to thinke of his dotting loue, you would of pittie desist to torment me with the sound of that ominous monster, but rather like to comfort my distressed state, and poore pining heart, almost

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most downed with sorrows: being more vnsfortunate, then euer any was by these afflictions, and the loss of my deere Ornatus, whose presence should releafe me from this thzalome, and labyrinth of discontent. Whom if you can tell me any tidings, I beseech you impart them vnto me: thereby to adde comfort to mitigate my care.

Ornatus was so rauished to heare her utter such heavenly speeches, that he had much adoe to reframe from embracing her: uttering these speeches. How happie is Ornatus by attaining the loue of so vertuous and constant a Ladie, worthy to be admired, eternalized, and for euer honored? What comfort may these pleasing wordes bring to his heart? What torment can he not account pleasure, indured for so sweet a Ladies safety? and what paines should he refuse to procure her sweet content? Artesia, diuine Artesia, Ornatus is not able to expresse his content, nor your desert: unable to recompence your kindnesse, and eueralstingly bound to you in all firme bands of faithfull loyalty. In your heart is the harbor of true loyalty, grounded vpon vertuous loue. When how happie is he by being enriched, and possesse of such a loue? His reward is greater then his paine: his pleasure more then euer his sorrows could be: and his gaine a thousands times beyond his losse. Why should I then conceale the troth of his safetie from you? With that he said: Behold Artesia, your Ornatus: with that he discovered himselfe vnto her, & she perfectly knewe him. Being almost amazed with that heavenly sight: when with a sweete behaviour, they both embraced eache other, intermingling their kisses, with teares of love that in abundance distilled from their eyes, sursetting so much in that sweete delight, that they were loath to part, but that feare to be espied, compelled them. Taking such exceeding comfort in each others presence, as is not to be exprest withal, vntill many kindnesse small betwixt faithfull friends, to expresse their joy, hee sometimes embracing her, & she againe with a sweet kisse, welcoming him, being so many, kinde, and hartie, as wold ask a skillfull discretio. At last hauing somewhat recreated themselves, and with sobaine joy banished some part of their care, they thought it time

# Ornatus and Artesia.

time to studie how to procure their happinesse, least y same might againe be crost by Lenon. Who by that time expected to heare from him. Wherefore Ornatus said: My most deare and kind Artesia, by whose loue my life is preserved. I am not able to expresse the joy my heart conceiue, by this fortunate meeting, being likewise as loze to thinke of the misfortune you haue indured by my carelesse ouersight, and how to get you from this place, and from Lenons affection, whom I knowe to bee of such vnciuill a disposition, that he will leaue no diuall meanes vnattempted to further his intent.

Wherefore in this vrgent extremitie, if you will be contented to esteeme me as your friend, and follow my directions, I will laboz all that I can to get you from this place. My true friend Ornatus (said Artesia) I haue dedicated my selfe to your disposition, and made my selfe all one with you, both in heart, body, and minde, that whatsoeuer you would wish your selfe, you do to me, & whatsoeuer please you, cannot displease me, for I am your selfe: therefore I comitt all things to your wisdom & rest to be ruled, counselled and ordered by you, in whatsoeuer you shall thinke conuenient: and will doe any thing you shall counsaile me vnto, both for our escape from hence, or otherwise: accounting my blisse yours, and yours mine, your cares mine, and your quiet, my content.

Lenons loue is most hatefull vnto me, and iniurie to you, then what meanes can you work to ridde me, of that and reuenge your owne wrong, perforce me, for my consent is ready to yeeld to any thing you shall thinke conuenient.

I most humbly thank you, said Ornatus, and first I thinke this is the best course, to procure my good liking with him, and to ridde us from hence, that at his next coming, you shewe a little more friendly countenance vnto him, then heretofore you haue done, as shall best agree with your wisdom, and he perceiuing that my seruice hath done more for him then euer he could attaine, will not only credit me, but also be ruled by mee in any thing I shall counsaile him vnto. Which if you will perforce me, comit the rest to me: My deere Ornatus at your request I will do this, which other-

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I would neuer of my selfe yeelde vnto, for that my loue to you, and hate to him, would not suffer me so much to dissemble: but I pray God deliuer me well from both of his power, that I may in quiet enjoy your sweete company. These speeches being ended, they parted with a sweete kisse, he sighing, and she for griefe shedding teares. Not long after Lenon came to Ornatus, requesting to know whether he had preuailed any thing with Artesia in his behalfe. My Lord (quoth he) I haue vsed many perswasions to her, which in some sort haue preuailed, but hereafter I do not doubt by my perswasions, but to winne her full consent: if you with wisdome will be directed by me, and not with rashnesse marre all: therefore goe in vnto her, but not so rashly, and see if she be not altered. Lenon embraced him in his armes, saying: thou bringest me tydings of exceeding comfort, for which I will reward thee most bountifully. With that he gaue him a purse of gold: which Ornatus took, thinking that should be a meane to further him, and hinder the giner. Lenon entred Artesias chamber, vsing many kinde speeches and submisse behaviours, whome she vsed more kindly then euer she had before done, which both filled his heart with ioy, and made him according to the Pilgrims directions, more carefull of his behauiour, least by any boldnesse he might offend her, that hauing past some small time with her, he departed.

Now was Ornatus studying how to release Artesia, to further whose intent, the occasion thus fell out. Allinus and Trasus as is before said, gate shipping for Armenia, and arriued there with safetie: first directing their course to the Kings Palace, where Allinus was most honourably entertained, being somewhat allied to the King, to whome he declared both the cause of his exile, and the injury done to him by Thaxon, king of Phrygia. Turbulus the Armenian King, comforted him all that he could, and bad him withall, request any thing at his hands & hee would graunt it him. Allinus alledging many things to perswade Turbulus to yeeld thereto, requested him to send Ambassadors into Phrygia, either to request performance of certaine articles, or

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else to giue him open defiance for war. The articles were these: that Allinus should be restozed to his lands, and the damage and losse he had sustained, should be repaid to the full, that his wife should be recalled from banishment, and that he should yeeld to Artesia to Allinus, if she should be in his custodie, and that the King and Lenon should be sworne to performe all this. Turbulus was easily wonne, and therefore presently sent foure of his Noble men as Ambassadors, to request the performance of those conditions. Who euen at that instant were landed in Phrygia, and newes thereof brought to the Court, the King being himselfe somewhat sickly, sent Lenon to meete them, and giue them entertainment: who was loth to go from Artesias sight, but assuring himselfe of the Pilgrims faith, committed her wholly to his custodie. Ornatus thought it now the fittest time to seek to escape, but he was hindzed by other of Lenons seruants, whome he had secretly appointed as ouerscers to looke into the Pilgrims action: that it was impossible for him to attempt any thing that way, but it must needs both be discovered and preuented. Ornatus seeing himselfe disappointed of his purpose that way, made Artesia acquainted with what hee intended, and how he was preuented, spending the time of Lenons absence continually in her company. But hauing met the Armenian Ambassadors, brought them to the Court, where they were honourably entertained, and hauing declared their Embassage, Thaxon the King, tolde them they should receiue answer within two daies.

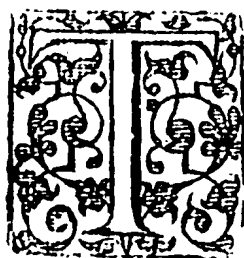
Lenon hearing the articles, counselled his father not to yeeld to performe any such conditions, but rather to send Turbulus defiance. For (quoth hee) your Maiestie are as absolutely King of Phrygia, as hee of Armenia, and then what dishonour were it vnto you to stope to his command, and shewe your selfe as it were affraid of his threates for to binde your selfe to this, were to become his subject: which would soone be published through the whole world to your dishonour. The King being ouerruled by his perswasions, gaue the Ambassadors this answer, that hee went not to performe the least of those articles they demanded,

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no<sup>r</sup> feared their things threats of warre, so<sup>r</sup> that hee was able to deale with a mightier foe then hee. Using many other wordes, and some of reproach, that the Armenians denouncing open warre according as they were commanded, departed.

## CHAP. XIII.

How *Ornatus* staying too late in *Artesias* chamber, was accused by *Lenons* seruants, whom he slew. How *Allinus* with a band of Armenians landed in *Phrygia*: and how *Ornatus* was imprisoned.



**H**axon knew that the king of Armenia would perfo<sup>r</sup>me his word, and therefore gaue *Lenon* charge to muster vp men throughout the whole land: committing the chiefe charge of the Ar<sup>m</sup>ie and ordering of these affaires, vnto him, who mo<sup>r</sup>e hardie bold, then wise, vnderooke all, and within short space, had gathered an exceeding great Ar<sup>m</sup>ie, and furnished certaine shippes, to mee<sup>t</sup>e with the Armenians by Sea if it might bee possible, to vanquish them before they shoulde land.

These troubles filled the Commons hearts with griefe, and their mouths with murmurings: so<sup>r</sup> they vnderstanding that the king of Armenia did offer warre to *Phrygia*, in the behalfe of *Allinus* that was generallie beloued: there was fewe of those that were prest to those warres, but came vntwillinglie, and rather by constraint, being mo<sup>r</sup>e readie to turne their sword points against *Thaxon*, then against *Allinus*.

*Ornatus* likewise hearing of these warres, by his wise dome found out the opinion of the multitude, and with what vntwillingnesse they came to the warres, which when hee was in some sort assured off, hee came to the Campe, and amongst all the

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rest of his Familiars, espied *Phylastes*, who alwaies loned him most dearely, him hee knewe to bee of a most faithfull and constant resolution, in perfo<sup>r</sup>ming his promise, and was by *Lenon* appointed one of the chiefe<sup>st</sup> leaders.

*Ornatus* finding him remote from the Campe, came to him, and after salutation, said: Sir *Phylastes*, I am sent vnto you by a deare friend of yours, named *Ornatus* who trusteth so much in your vertues, that he is willing to put his life into your hands, which you shall hazard, in denying him one small fauour, which with safetie you may graunt. First therefore, I request but your promise so<sup>r</sup> your warrantie, and then I will declare what I haue in charge.

My friend (quoth *Phylastes*) thou tellest me newes of wonder, when thou sayest thou comest from *Ornatus*, whom I feare is long since dead: but if thou knowest the contrary, and canst resolue me thereof, I promise and sweare to perfo<sup>r</sup>me whatsoever thou shalt demaund: so<sup>r</sup> I am sure *Ornatus* knoweth that I loue him, no<sup>r</sup> maketh any doubt thereof, which if hee do, he inturieth that loue and friendship that hath past betwene vs.

When kinde sir (quoth he) that *Ornatus* is not dead, but in safetie, and I am that *Ornatus*, that notwithstanding my speech, make no doubt of your loue.

*Phylastes* beholding his countenance, knew him well, and so<sup>r</sup> ioy caught him in his armes. My deare friend *Ornatus* (quoth hee) I am gladd of your safetie, and accused bee my soule if I do not any thing that you shall commaund.

I thanke you (quoth *Ornatus*) to enter into the tedious discourse of my afflictions, would be tedious: but in few wordes I will tell you all. I loued *Artesia* long, but found no hope no<sup>r</sup> meanes to attaine my loue, which made mee disguise my selfe into womans apparell, naming my selfe *Sylolan*, and was fortunately entertained by *Arballus*, whose dea<sup>r</sup>th I founde to bee acted by *Florentus*, who falling into loue with me tolde me

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me for my sake he would payson Artesia at the Lodge, whither he conveyed her, I fearing to have her taken from me, and having wonne her love, tolde her his intent, and conveyed her to Adellenas house: then Floretus and Lenon came thither, demanding her of me, whom I tolde I had paysoned her, according to his counsell: we striving, were brought before Thæon, who banished me into Natolia, from whence I came backe, and by good fortune have the keeping of Artesia in this disguise, the manner I will tell you at more leisure. Now my deare friend Phylastes, my desire is to change my place with you, you to have the custodie of Artesia in my Palmers weeds, and I to march into the field in your Armour, which if you graunt, you shall bind me unto you for ever. Phylastes yielded to fulfill his request, and so for that time they parted, appointing to meete the next day. Ornatus being come to Artesia, tolde her where he had bene, and what he intended, which made Artesia sad, dissuading him from his purpose in this sort: My deare Love, what need you venture your person in the dangers that are incident to war? will you leave me heere in doubt, and not rather stae with me to my comfort? there are enough besides and too many in the field, and Phylastes is able to execute his own place: then I beseech you do not leave mee in discomfort, for how can I be voyd of care, when I shall thinke you are amongst so many enemies ready to be slaughtered? My deare Love (quoth he) that which I will do shall be without any hazard at all, but shall procure both your and mine owne content. When I beseech you remit this care for my safetie, for I will preferre my selfe from danger for your sake. Besides Phylastes vertue is such, that you need not once so much as thinke amiss of him: who I knowe would venture his life for my sake. Besides, my hono<sup>r</sup> bygeth mee, revenge of injuries done to your selfe and me, and my fathers safetie, are reasons sufficient to perswade your consent: besides many other causes more forcible then these, too tedious to recite. When I beseech you denie me not: for when it shall be knowne that my father was in arm<sup>o</sup> in the field, and I in this place not regarding to aide him, it will turne to my

# Ornatus and Artesia.

my great dishonour: and those which before did esteeme well of me, will then begin to hate me: then let not your doubt and true love to me, hinder my determination: for on that mine honour, your safetie, and my fathers life dependeth. Artesia seeing she could by no meanes dissuade him, thought not to let him depart so suddenly, but clasping her tender armes about his necke, a thousand times kiss his lippes, whilst with her abundant teares she bedewed his manly cheekes. Ornatus took great sorrow at her heavinesse, and delight in her embracements, that the contraries of his conceits were exceeding: pleasure it selfe, seeming more pleasant intermingled with care, and care a pleasure to be endured with such delight. Artesia was loath to let Ornatus depart that night, for that she deemed he should be in danger the next day, and hee as unwilling to leave her in sorrow: she on the one side solacing her selfe in his company, and hee by her kindnesse making him forget to depart, that before they were alore, night was come and well spent, and Ornatus then bethinking himselfe, thought it was too late to depart. And Artesia, hearing him make a motion to be gone, desired him to stae. And yet my deare Ornatus (quoth she) doe not you indanger your selfe for my sake, for should Lenons servants finde you heere, it might redound to our great disquiet. Ornatus likewise well considering the inconvenience, took his leave of her, and left her shedding abundance of teares. Ornatus being gone, found the servants awake, and watching his coming out, one of them saying; Pilgrim what maketh thee so late as to court my Palmers Love? Is this a fitt time of the night to be in her chamber? my Lord shall understand your behaviour, and what familiaritie is betwixt you: wee take you to be some counterfeit, else would not such behaviours passe betwixt you as we have behelde. Wherefore heere shall you stae, untill we give him knowledge of your doings and fidelitie: with that they lockt fast the doore, not suffering him to goe out or in. Ornatus by that perceived that they had seene the hinderesse betwixt him and Artesia, which he knewe if Lenon should understand, he would finde out what he was: these thoughts troubled him

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his heart exceedingly, that he was assured unless he could be rid of them, there was no meanes to escape death, if Leon should know him. With these thoughts he sat a good while silent, till he perceived them incline to sleepe, and closing his eyes as he, espied a bill hanging by the wall, to which he stole secretly, and taking hold of the same, he drew towards them, entering into these meditations. And shall I now commit murder, and endanger my soule by so heinous a sin: what will Artesia say if she know thou art so bloody bent: and that thy heart is so hard, as to shed thine own countrey mens blood: Ornatus be well advised before thou do this deed, and bethinke of some other meane: should the danger thou art ready to fall into. Other meanes Ornatus, yea but what other meanes had thou: none at all, dost thou not see how they have betrayed thee, and made thee prisoner, what then needest thou make a question, to save thy selfe, and by their deaths preserve thine owne life: which thy living, will be endangered, and being once done, thou art safe, but by delay, thy owne life may perish. With that lifting up his armes with more then wonted force, he smote the one on the head, & beate out his braines: wherewith the other began to awake: but in his awaking, he strake him so full on the breast, that the bill pierced his heart, and he laye breathlesse sprawling in his gore. This done, Ornatus found a batle and into the same hee fancied their dead bodies, purposing never to reveale what he had done. When returning, he bethought himself of the keys of the doores that hee had throwen into the batle with their bodies, devising how to get out, without insipition of the deed he had done, yet he was enforced to take the bill, & by maine force, and often striving, to wong asunder the locks. His minde being exceedingly affrighted with these cares, he entered into Artesias chamber, to see whether he had disquieted her or no with the noise, her he found in bed, & fast a sleep with the light still burning by her beds side, her breast unconcerned downe to the wasse, and nothing to shew her from his perfect view, but the single sheete, that lay carelesly cast over her tender body, her armes cast to either side of the bed, and her head leaning on the one side, with so sweete an aspect, as would have ravished

# Ornatus and Artesia.

nished a thousand beholders. Ornatus heart was renewed to behold this sweet sight, that the remembrance thereof had banished all remembrance of his troubles past, and affected his heart with incomparable delight: that he stood like one amazed to behold her sweet beaute, and to take a sursetting view of those her perfections, so amiable to the sight. Artesia sodainly awaking blusht to see him so nee, yet therewith more comforted then dismayed she caught the clothes and covered her selfe, whilst hee folding his hand in hers, desired pardon for his boldnesse: but she viewing him well, behelde his pale and gasping countenance, which drew her into feare, and raising her selfe by sight in her bed, caught him in her armes, asking what he ayled to looke so pale: O deare Artesia (quoth hee) Once I parted from you, I have endured great danger, & past through a hell of calamities, which now I feare not. With that he let his head fall into her sweete bosome, and there made the period of his speeche, feeling her tender heart pant, with the motions of her troubled spirits. In which pallasce hee rested it a good while, whilst she with her soft hand curled his haire, and with sweet kisses, mollified his lips. Using many other familiarities, & sweete favours, proceeding from the depth of kinde love, wherewith Ornatus was so ravished, that hee not onely took beavenly comfort therein, but also desired a further content, & possession of her love, which he never before asked, nor thought she would grant, but being hartned by the assurance of her love, hee used more bolde behaviour, which shee permitted: but at last growing more bolde then shee thought convenient for her modestie to permit, with a kinde and lovely behaviour, shee both blamed and hindred him, but the motions of affection so far prevailed with them both, that hee desired, and shee inwardly yielded, though outwardly shee refused, but his behaviour, her owne love, the present occasion, so fitte opportunity, their hearts unitie, and other sweete enticements, so farre prevailed, that shee yielded up her unpotted body, & pure chastitie, to his possession, and the impression of his attempt, dissolved her Virgin zone, giving full interests of her heart, love, and body, to him, that pursued the possession of those riches, with earnestnesse: Sometimes blushing, sometimes speaking, and yet yielding,

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denying, and yet granting, willing and unwilling: yet at last, she gave that she could not recall, and let him possesse her spotles virginittie, which being past, her heart panted with the motion, and she felt her senses sadde, a little repenting, yet not altogether: sighing for sadnesse, and yet not sad at all: whilst he bathed himselfe in that haven of Blisse, passing the rest of that night in such unspeakable pleasure as cannot be deciphered. Early the next morning hee arose, taking his farewell with a sweete Adieu, leaving Artesia sad for sorrow, and lamenting his absence, but yet with earnest and hearty prayers, invoking his happie success: bathing her heart in lake-warmte, thinking she had bene too prodigall of her favours to him, and yet esteeming him worthie of a thousand times greater gift, if she had it in her possession, with repentance relieving, though deeming herselfe metamorphose, and other then she was wont to be, being glad she had no more companie to converse withall, lest her guilt should make her blissh, and so betwaxe her fault. And when Phoebus began to lighten the Chamber with his splendor, she hid herselfe within the bed, as if the day-light had accused her of that she had done in the darke. Ornatus being come to the Campe, found out Phylastes, and brought him to Artesias lodging, by the way instructing him how to order their business when Lenon should come. Where being entered, Phylastes hauing saluted Artesia, and a while conuerst about their affaires, they changed their habits. Ornatus with many a sorrowfull sigh taking his leave of her, whilst her heart bled warme drops of blood. Ornatus againe took his leave of Artesia, and entered the Campe, framing himselfe to such kinde of behaviour, that hee was of all taken for Phylastes. It was euen that the Armenians were landed, and had brought their forces within a dayes march of Theons Campe, the King assembled all the chiefe Leaders together, to appoint euery man his charge, and consult what to doe. Ornatus in Phylastes stead, had under his charge foure thousand men, whom by his owne taking he was appointed to conuoy into a wood that was fitt to offend the ennemie, and the rest appointed to other places.

# Ornatus and Artesia.

places that seemed for most advantage. Ornatus hauing his souldiers alone, thought it time to execute what he intended, and therefore called vnto him such as were Captaines and chiefe vnder him, uttering these speeches. Fellow souldiers, I would willingly bitter my mind which is troubled in some sort with remembrance of the iniuries. Allinus hath already causelesly indured, against whom now we aduise our selues to fight: wherein in my mind we deale vniuallly: for he was neuer traytor to his countrey, nor now cometh to disturbe the land with oppression, but only to claime his own inheritance and libertie, which our selues do permit: therefore I thinke it best before we draw our weapons, to consider against whom we drawe them, and whom we offend, one that loveth vs, his Countrey and people, and would not willingly shed a drop of our blood. Now if I could find a remedie for all this, which standeth with equitie, would you follow my directions? With that they all at once said, they would be ruled by him. When hee said, Theon that is now our King, destroyed all his familie, and such as are in any degree neare to him in blood, the last of whom is Allinus, whose bitter ruine hee now seeketh, not by iustice, but that neither he nor any of his progenie should hinder his succession. Therefore if you will follow my counsell, when the armies are met let vs not offer to offend the Armenians, but keepe our selues from fight, vntill Lenon affrighted therewith, and fearing the peoples revolt, will peradventure yield to performe the articles the Armenian Embassadors demaunded: and by this meanes shall wee restore Allinus to his right, saue the effusion of blood, and yet not wrong our reputation. The people hearing his speeches, generally gaue their content: crying, Phylastes, Phylastes. With that Ornatus bestowed the golde among them that Lenon had before given him, which preuailed with the multitude exceedingly. Ornatus hauing effected this according to his desire, went vnto the Armenian Campe, desiring to speake with Allinus the Generall, to whom he declared what he intended in his behalfe, not discovering him to be other then Phylastes, for which Allinus rewarded him in many beastes.

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harty thanks. Whilſt Ornatus was abſent, a Captaine named Ortonus, by deſire of reward, and aboue the reſt fauouring Lenons party, ſtole from the wood, and comming into the Campe to Lenon, betrayed what Phylaſtes intended, and how that he was now gone to the Armenian Campe, to confer with Alſinus.

Lenon hearing that, thought it beſt, not to ſend for him by warrant, but amongſt the reſt, to aſſemble him to counsell: and to that effect ſent a Herault. Ornatus being returned, had knowledge of the generall aſſembly, and willinglie went, little ſuſpecting what Lenon intended, and being entred the Camp, & Lenons went, he was beſore all the Eſtates, by a Herault arreſted of high treason. Ornatus the thought his intent was betrayed, demanding what they could lay to his charge: Whereupon Ortonus beſore them all, declared what he had done, which he could not denie, vppon which accuſation, he was preſently ſent to the Court, and there impriſoned.

## CHAP. XV.

Howe Ornatus was deliuered out of priſon, & carried Arteſia from the court. How Ornatus in a ſingle combat, overcame Lenon, and cauſed Theons flight. And how Arteſia to eſcape Theon, fled to Adellenaes houſe.



The newes of Ornatus impriſonment was ſoone blaied through the whole camp, court, and country, & at laſt came to Arteſias hearing, who with exceeding lamentations bewailed his miſfortune, but Phylaſtes comming vnto her, comforted her all that he could, promiſing to ſet Ornatus at libertie (if quoth he) at Lenons next comming, you will requeſt his ſignet, to haue as his warrant for your ſafetie. The next day the armies ſhould meete, and therefore Lenon that night viſited Arteſia, finding her ſorry ſad, demanding the cauſe thereof: my Lord quoth the, how can

# Ornatus and Arteſia.

can I be otherwiſe then ſad, when I am ready every houre to fall into more miſerie, not knowing whither your life may be indangered by theſe warres, and I thereby ſubiect to ſome miſfortune. Wherefore in ſigne you loue mee, graunt me your ſignet, to haue my warrant and priuledge, againſt all iniurie & in my be offered mee: with & ſhe kiſt him, which ſhe had neuer beſore done, not by lawe by any good will, but with deſire to helpe Ornatus. Lenons heart was ſo overcome, that he preſently gaue her the ſame, ſaying ſometime with her, intreating her conſent to his loue. He was no ſoner gone, but Phylaſtes taking the ring of Arteſia, went vnto the place where Ornatus was, and comming to the Jailor, tolde him that he muſt deliuer Ornatus to his cuſtodie, ſhewing him the Princes ſignet, as his warrant: the Jailor ſeeing the ſame, and knowing that the Pilgrim was of great credit & truſt with Lenon, made no doubt, but preſently deliuered Ornatus vnto him: both departing together, to Arteſia, who ſeeing her beloued ſo fortunately deliuered, shed teares of ioy for his eſcape. After ſalutations in the kindeſt wiſe paſt, Ornatus declared what he intended, and howe he was betrayed by Ortonus. Phylaſtes then counſelled Ornatus, that night to conuey Arteſia from thence, vnto ſome place of better ſecuritie, who ſometimes thought to carrie her to Adellenaes houſe, but he thought Lenon would miſdoubt & place, at laſt he concluded to conuey her to her caſtle, where Arbaſters her father dwelt, which was ſtill kept to her uſe, by certaine of her fathers ſervants. Both Arteſia & Phylaſtes liked this well; and therefore leaving the court, they departed thitherwards, Arteſia not wanted to trauell, could ſcarcely indure to holde out, but by their help, they arrived there at midnight, & knocking, awaked the porter, who looking ouer the battlements, demanded who was below at that vnreaſonable time of the night: My friend quoth Ornatus, it is Arteſia that commeth in time of her moſt need, for harbo in this place. The Porter blewiſng her well by the bright light of Scynthia, & kiſt her, calling by the reſt of his fellows, came running down, and opened the gate, where he and the reſt, receiued her in with great ioy.

Ornatus

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Ornatus was glad of this happie escape, but yet exceeding sad that he could not assist his father against Lenon, but that he must perforce be absent from his rescue, which filled his heart with such care, that all that night he could take no rest, and though he enjoyed Artelias company without controule, he could harbor no rest or quiet to his disempered thoughts: that Phylastes demanded the cause of his sadness. My assured friend Phylastes (quoth he) the remembrance of my fathers estate, and feare of his mishap, maketh me thus sad, and griefs exceeding torment possesseth mee, that I cannot be present to aide him against Lenon, that by cowardly malice, not with valour, will take his ruine before any others. Were I but present to defend him, though I offended none, my heart would be at quiet. Artelia hearing his speeches said; O Ornatus do not againe hazard your selfe, as you lately did: for you have not fortune and Phylastes wisdoms, assisted both your life, and with it mine, had bene cast away. My deare Artelia (quoth he) that wisdom hath taught me wisdom, and by remembering it, I will learne to eschue such mischances, and know to whom I trust: therefore I beseech you, grant I may once againe go to do my dutie in aiding my father, which I will now do without danger: for that I will make none privie to that I intend, nor attempt more then I am able to performe. Artelia seeing howe fully he was bent to goe, pressed his will before her owne desire, knowing her dutie not to contradict, but to counsell him, and therefore said; My deare Ornatus, my dutie bindeth me to consent, but my loue willet me to denie: feare of your mishap maketh me unwilling, but will to fulfill your desire, maketh me give an unwilling consent: onely led me request this, that you will take Phylastes in your company, and leaue me to the custodie of my servants, whose fidelitie I am assured of: for having him with you, his aide and counsell may much auail to preserve your life, which if you lose (as heauens forbid) with the same shall mine expire. For it is impossible Artelia should breathe, Ornatus being breathelesse. Ornatus with a fewe teares that by exceeding griefe were issuing from his heart, participated her laments.

First

# Ornatus and Artelia.

First requesting the seruants to be carefull of her good, and then without delaye, both furnishing himselfe and Phylastes, with rich armour and horse, of which there was great choyce in that Castle: and so that the day began to appeare, they thought it time to depart, least their comming from thence might be discovered: Where might one beholde sorrow at parting in his right forme, part breaking sighes, breathing sad farewells, and sorrowfull teares at so sad a parting, when their lippes were parted, their hands still fast, their hands disloynd, then their voyces oftentimes bitering, that wofull word, farewell: and when they were past hearing, their eyes unwillingly leaving each others sight, he being without looking backe, and she within looking after, so long as she could perceive the glimmering glance of his bright armour, and he being past sight of her, with watry eyes beholding the place of her abode, thus parted they, as if they had parted neuer to meete. Drawing nigh the armies, they beheld them met and in hot skirmish, standing still a good space, to see to whether partie it was likely the victorie would incline: and in the ende they beheld the Armenians begin to retreat, and Lenon with Tharon his Father in the midst of the throng, making exceeding slaughter, and proud of their deemed conquest: which set Ornatus heart on fire, that he rusht amongst the thickest of his Countrey men, yet not once offering a blow, nor shedding a drop of the blood he loued, but onely making way to come to Lenon, which made them not offer to stay his passage: but admiring what he was, let him goe free; after whom Phylastes hastned. The souldiers seeing those two new come knights offende none, admired what they should be, not one of them all offering a blow, because they offered none. By this time Ornatus was come to the place where Lenon was, who euen then & not before had met Allinus, betwixt whom many blowes and some woundes were given and receiued, but Allinus had the worst by reason of his age. Ornatus knowing his father by his armour, came betwixt them with his sword drawn, saying: Lenon stay thy hand: let age goe free, and let thy youth cope with mee, that am come to challenge thee before both the Armies: and

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therefore

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therefore as thou art the Kings Son, a knight and honoꝛst arms, give order by thy Herauld, to stay the furie of the Battalles, till thou and I haue tryed our valours, otherwise this knight and I haue vowed to hūit thee from place to place, and neuer giue ouer, until wee haue spilt thy blood.

Lenon, hearing this Champions proud challenge, sayd: If thou art a knight, a gentleman as I am, and canst shewe wherewith I haue wronged thee, I will answer thee, otherwise knowe, that I scoꝛne thee, although I know my selfe of sufficient strength to abate thy haughty presumption, were it neuer so great. With that two heraulds were sent from either General, to part the soldiers, which done, Ornatus before the open assembly said. Lenon, first I saye I am a Gentleman, as absolute and as good as thy selfe: Since I am none, neither art thou by right, but that by tyrannie and usurpation thou holdest the same. I come as Artelias Champion, to challenge thee of disloyalty, as the outrages thou hast committed by detaining her libertie, do manifest. I challenge thee for doing iniustice against Allinus, whom thou withholdest from his right, by trecherous malice. I challenge thee, as a partaker of Arbastus death, for that thou sufferest and upholdest his murderer Floretus, that hath deserved death. I challenge thee for oppression laid vpon this whole land. And lastly, for detaining Ornatus liuing, who neuer was impeached of treason: and therefore if thou darrest answer my challenge, I am here ready, otherwise, I here pronounce thee for a coward, & a miscreant, not worthy to beare Armes. Lenon made this replie. Being accused by a stranger, without cause, I regarde it not, and being iudge my selfe, will not be by thee be aduinged: but for thy proude challenge, I will answer thee, as little regarding what thou canst say, as thou boastingly dost vaunt of thy valor. Wherefore euen now before I depart, I will without delay abate thy haughtinesse, though thy accusations are manifestly false: for I both loue and esteeme Artelia as dearly as I doe my selfe: my title to the Crowne, is iust: for Allinus hee is both a traitor at home, and abroad: first in causing his complices to take my fathers life: and lastly, for bringing these Armenian

bands

# Ornatus and Artelia.

bands, to destroye the Countrey. For Floretus pardon, it is mercie, not iniustice. As for oppression done to Ornatus, all knowe, I neuer injured him: but if hee take the Justice that is done to his traitorous father, as done to him, I cannot helpe that: but reuenge it thou, since thou art his Champion. Ornatus had much adoe to stay to heare out his speche, which galled him to the very heart, that without speaking a word more, hee smote at Lenon, and Lenon with courage, answered his blowes, beginning a most fierce and forceable encounter, and with like furie continuing the same, til both had receiued many wounds, and their steeds beganne to be furious and madde, with the smart of some strokes that mist their ayne.

Ornatus calling to remembrance, first the injuries he had receiued, and that Lenon & none else could dispossesse him of Artelias Loue, and many other wrongs he had done him and his parents, thought now to reuenge them all, and dispossesse Thaeon of the Crowne by Lenons death, renewed his spirits with such courage, that he began with renewed strength to assaile Lenon, who euen then began to fainte, & would haue yielded, but that shame withheld him. Which when Ornatus perceiued, hee thought at once to ende the strife, that with one forceable blow, hee gaue him so deep a wound on the right arme, where the Armour was broken away, that hee let fall his sward, and fell senselesse on his horse necke. Thaeon perceiuing his sonne in that danger, with his guard came rushing in, & rescued him from Ornatus sward, which otherwise had pierced his head from his boole. With this, both the Armies toynd battel againe: the Armenians with new courage rushing vpon their enemies, whose hearts began to faile, seeing Lenon so nax death, which made such a confusion among them, that they were readyer to flie or yield to Allinus, then to fight it out: that on a sobain, the Armenians had slaine an infinit number of them, & all the earth was dyed to a purple colour, with their blood. Ornatus heart was vexed to see so much of his Countrey bloud shed, that hee intreated Phylattes to perswade the Souldiers to giue ouer, and himselfe rode betwixt the two Armies with a Herauld, desiring them to

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state their furle for a while. Long it was before they would glue over, but at last by the Drums and Trumpet sound, having called backe the Armenians, Ornatus placing himselfe in the midst of his Countrey men, that a multitude might heare him, said.

Renowned people of Phrygia, heare my speech that am to mentio-  
mented to see so much of your blood shed, the effusion whereof, I  
sake by all meanes to stop, having as you see for the loue I beare  
to you, not lifted my hand against any of you, but onely Lenon:  
the causes that bryge me to challenge him, is the manifest wronge  
he and his father hath done to your selues, this Countrey, and all  
the Nobilitie: for the true testimony whereof, let every one in-  
wardly examine his owne conscience, and they will not deny my  
wordes, but finde themselves exceedingly grieved with his oppres-  
sion. Doe you not see what destruction he hath brought vpon this  
land? Are not almost all the Nobilitie slaine and destroyed? Are  
not your liberties, goods and friends, taken from you? Is not the  
whole land in an vproare, and every one driven from his quiet at  
home, to venture his life in the fildes, and all this for satisfaction  
of his will and selfe command, not grounded vpon lawe nor iu-  
stice? Examine your consciences, is he your lawfull King? did  
he not murder your lawfull King, onely to make you his vassals?  
Againe, doth Allinus sake to do his Countrey wrong? doth he  
come to oppresse you? doth he sake to abuse your libertie? No:  
he onely cometh to claime his possessions, by iniustice taken  
from him: he cometh as bryged by griefe, not so line as a ban-  
ished man, being himselfe, his wife, children and familie, driven so  
line in miserie and slauey, for the satisfaction of his Lust. When I  
beseech you good souldiers, consider well what you do, whom you  
defend, a traytor: and whom you resist, a deare friend, that loveth  
and tendereth your liues as deare as his owne: whose estate the  
Armenians pille, so whome he was neuer gracious: but his owne  
Countrey mens hearts are hardened against him, repaying crueltie  
for his loue, and resistance to withhold his right. I could alledge  
so many reasons to dissuade you from following Thaxons will,  
as would aske a tedious recital, but I know you are of wisdome  
to

# Ornatus and Artesia.

to conceine the right: your hearts mercifull to pittie him, and your  
mindes apt to doe Iustice: then glue him over, discharge your  
mindes of care, and disburthen your selues of his oppression. I  
stand heere as an Advocate to pleade for Allinus right, that hath  
suffered too much wrong. I stand heere as Artesias Champion,  
that is imprisoned by Lenon, abused by Lenon, and withheld  
from her libertie by Lenon. I stand here to intreat you save your  
owne liues, to preserve your libertie to execute Justice, and to doe  
Allinus right. When I beseeche you, lay aside your armes taken  
in defence of wrong, and turne your hearts to pittie innocencie:  
whereby you shall save many of your liues, shew your selues men  
that are ruled by wisdom, and not by rage: and purchase liber-  
tie, freedom, and peace, for euer. When you that beare the true  
hearts of Phrygians, follow me, and glue over to follow that blur-  
per, and steepe such ruines and destructions as are like to ensue by  
your refusall: and let the rightfull heire possesse the Crowne, who  
will loue you, cherish you, and sake his Countreys peace. The  
peoples hearts were so altered with his speeches, that many came  
running to him, crying, Allinus, Allinus: and the rest that were  
not yet resolved, stood in a doubt what to doe. Whilest Duke Ter-  
nus commanded his Forces to follow him, who withheld him-  
selfe from the Campe, espying so fit occasion, determined likewise  
not to followe Thaxon longer, whom he neither hated nor loued,  
but yet esteemed as unlawfull blurper of that Kingdome: and ra-  
ther desiring Allinus should possesse his right or inheritance, then  
any way willingly contradicting the same: being as many others  
were, forced to come to those warres, fearing Thaxons displea-  
sure, who cared not in what sort his will was performed. Ter-  
nus therefore drew himselfe apart with this policie, that if Thax-  
on prevailed, yet he could not impeach him: and if Allinus had  
the best, yet he could not alledge that Ternus withheld him, thin-  
king it the greatest poynte of wisdom to keepe himselfe by sight.  
Thaxon had no sooner conveyed his Sonne to his Tent, and with  
much adoe recovered him to his sences, but there came a mes-  
senger boasting from the Court, with newes that Phylastes was  
to

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two dayes since escaped out of prison. And presently after him, another brought newes that Artelia with the pilgrim, was fled, but no man could tell whither. Lenon hearing the newes, became almost mad, and raged so extreame, that his wounds burst into fresh bleeding: and to fill up his heart with sorrowe and vexation, another messenger from the campe, came running in, crying, *Alie Thæon, Alie, we are betrayed to the enemye, the leauers captaines and souldiers are reuoluted, and the enemye is nere at hand to surpriseth thee: Alie and save thy life, for thine owne subjects haue left thee, and refused thy government.* Thæon was so amazed and terrified with feare, that without regard of Lenons life, he fled to save himselfe. Every one saving those that were fled with Thæon, with haste running to their reuolting fellows to save themselves. This newes was brought to Allinus, who hearing the same, and being past feare of Thæons rage, sent a Herault to Turnus, to know whether he were his friend, or still continued those bandes to resist him as his foe: who returned this answer, that he was neuer foe to him, but alwaies with his good. Afterwards dismissing his souldiers, and sending every one well rewarded to his owne house, himselfe coming backe to his Tent, where he met Allinus whome he kindly saluted. Whither were assembled the chiefe States of the land, to whom Allinus said. *My Lords, since Thæon & Lenon are fled, & none left but your honours in place of iustice, with right and equalitie to minister the same to such as haue sustained wrong: I as one that haue abode the greatest losse, commit my cause to your wisdomes: you know what injuries I haue indured by his malice, onelie so that I sought to set Artelia at libertie, that was by Lenon imprisoned, and badly used: requesting nothing of you, but that which by right is mine, and belongeth to me by inheritance.* The nobles with a generall assent, granted that he should enjoy his former possessions: and that his losse should be repaid out of the Kings treasure.

Ornatus standing by, said: *Most noble peers, you stand here debating matters, whilst the cause of your broe is living, and farre enough from yeelding to that you graunt, who now per-*  
adventure

# Ornatus and Artefia.

adventure is mustering newe forces, to make frustrate what you intend, and to worke reuenge. Which to prevent, giue mee your consents to pursue him, and he being once taken, then may you without controll, either establish him, or chuse a new, that should be right be your king.

To this all the nobles gaue consent, and Ornatus with three thousand hozsmen, folloved Thæon, who first took the green foztresse, with five hundred men, who continued firme, wonne by great rewards, but hearing of the Armenians approach, under the conduct of the stranger, that slue Lenon, in the night hee fled with a hundred of his nearest friends and allies, to Arbastus castle, where he thought to liue secure and unknowne, for that he thought his enemies would least of all suspect that place. Hee arrived there in the dead time of the night: but knocking, was denied entrance, which made him almost desperate, that hee assayed to enter by force, and prevailed so, that hee gat in with the rest of his company, making fast the Gates againe after them.

Artelias seruants knowing what hee was, some ranne one way, some another, to hide themselves from him. One amongst the rest, came running into Artelias chamber, declaring to her what had befallen, & how that the king had taken the castle. Artelia hauing not yet heard of Lenons death: nor what successe Ornatus had in the campe, wringing her hands made this lamentation. *Twice hath my deare Ornatus left me in this danger, and hazarded his owne life, hoping to attaine good successe, but cruell fortune hath still crost his laubable attempts, & let both him and my poore selfe, in extreame miserie. Now am I assured hee is taken prisoner againe, and my selfe am like not long to go free, for I am sure the king hath heard of my being here, which maketh him come thus late. Well, might I but be made prisoner in the same place my Ornatus lyeth intyalled, that I might yet enjoy his sight, then should I thinke my selfe happy in miserie, but I feare mee too much, they will kill me murther him, and neuer let mee knowe thereof, wherby I shall be helpe with long frustra-*

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frustrated hope to see him, and in the end he deceiued. Neuer was  
pore mayden brought to such miserie, nor I thinke true loue ne-  
uer crost with such pitter aduersities, which both he for me, and I  
for him, haue bene continualy subiect vnto ever since our first ac-  
quaintance. As she was still continuing her laments, the same  
seruant whose name was Thriftus, came running in again, say-  
ing *Mistresse*, I haue found a meanes for your escape from  
hence vnespied, if you will attempt the same; which is without a-  
ny danger at all. Neuer tell me what it is (quoth she) but be thou  
my guide and I will follow thee: for I will attempt any thing to  
escape from him. Then (quoth he) feare nothing, but follow me.  
Then took he her by the hand, leading her out of that room into  
a darke entrie, where by reason of the night, there appeared not  
the least glimse of light, and through that into many backe rooms  
and vnfrequented places of the Castle, until he came to a postern  
gate which he opened, and after hee was out, shut the same fast  
again, saying. Now *mistresse* you are out of the Castle, and pass  
feare of the King, who little knoweth you can passe out this way,  
therefore I pray tell me whither I shal conduct you? I thanke  
thee good Thriftus quoth she, for this thy good assistance, for which  
I will one day bee thankfol vnto thee, and now I pray thee direct  
me to Adellenas house, who is my faithfol friend, and will rather  
die then discover me. This said, they began their iourney, which  
was but thre miles, and therefore they soon overcame the same,  
euen by the morning light arriving at the wished place. Adel-  
lena hearing some knocke at the gate, commanded her mayd to  
rise, to see who it was, the *Damsel* coming downe, before shee  
would open the gate asked who was there? Artesia knowing  
her voyce, said; It is Artesia, good Anna let me in. With that the  
*Damsel* opened the gate, conducting her to her *mistresse* Cham-  
ber, who espying her, was so surprised with ioy, that she imbrac-  
ing her, shed abundance of teares, saying: Welcome my deare  
Artesia, I was afraid I should neuer haue seene you againe, you  
haue bene so long time absent. Indeed (quoth she) I haue bin long  
absent from thee, though ill not far from thee: but I haue news of  
importance

# Ornatus and Artesia.

importance to tell thee, which I will forbear to speake of untill I  
haue refreshed my selfe, for care and travell hath made mee exce-  
dingly weary. When Adellena brought her into a sweet and plea-  
sant Chamber, where she layde her downe to rest.

## CHAP. XVI.

¶ How Ornatus surprised Theron in Arbastus Castle, who  
was slaine by one of his Seruants.



Ornatus hearing the King had taken the green  
Foztresse, beset the same round with horse-  
men, who took certaine of the Kings follow-  
ers, that being brought before him, tolde him  
the King was fled with some hundred in his  
company to Arbastus Castle, which when  
he heard, without delay he rode thither, sea-  
ching leaste Theron getting in and finding  
Artesia, would offer her some iniurie: hee was no sooner come,  
but he found it so: for hee was denyed entrance, nor could see one  
of Artesias seruants, whom hee left as keepers of the same, which  
so much disquietted his heart, that hee could not tell what to doe:  
thinking it best to intreate Theron kindly, lest hee should seeke  
revenge against Artesia, though she were innocent, and no way  
to be blamed for any thing: and such a multitude of contrarious  
feares arose in his fancie, that hee samed therewith metamor-  
phosed. Which Phylastes soon perceiued, and coming to him  
said; How now Ornatus what hath feare taken away your cou-  
rage? My friend Phylastes (quoth hee) Theron is within, and  
thereby possessor of Artesia, whose minde is so farre from the least  
thought of vertue, that no doubt hee will seeke reuenge on her.

Feare not that (quoth hee,) but summon him to the walles by the  
sound of a Trumpet, and will him to yeelde him selfe, and stand to  
the courtisie of his Nobles, and promise him with safetie to con-  
duct him thither. Ornatus allowed his counsel, and therfore com-  
manded a Trumpet to sound a Parley, and thereupon one from  
the

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the King appeared on the walles, demanding what hee would haue. To whom Ornatus said: Well Thæon the King, that was come to him from the Pæres of the Realme. The messenger told the King what he said. Whereupon Thæon came in sight, demanding what he would haue.

Quoth hee, I would haue you yelde, least by resistance, you procure a greater mischance to your selfe, then is by vs pretended. Suppose I should yelde (quoth he) how would you vse mee? Like a King, quoth Ornatus) honourable. I haue found (said hee,) so small cause to trust you, that it were fondnesse to put my life with, in compasse of your mercie: therefore I will keepe my selfe where I am, not doubting ere many dayes, to haue so many friends, as shall both chase thee, and the Armenians from the walles, and so out of this Countrey: which hee spake vpon the confidence he had in certaine friends, that had promised to gather new forces, but meant neuer to performe the same.

Ornatus was much troubled in his minde, so thinke what was become of Artesia, maruailing that hee spake not of her, nor could heare of any of her seruants, that he might giue him knowledge howe she fared. But seeing his faire words would not preuaile, said, Thæon, since thou refusest the courteous profer I make thee, know, that my intent is altered, and since thou wilt not by faire meanes yelde, I will enforce thee to submitte thy selfe to my mercie, or abide my rigour: for not all the friends thou canst finde shall shelter thee from my reuenge: for I haue sworne thy death, and nothing but that shall satiffie mee. Which howe I will once againe reuoke, if thou wilt yelde without enforcement, and deliuer mee Artesia in safetie, that is within that Castle. Artesia, (quoth Thæon,) had I her in my custodie, I would be reuenged on her, because thou wishest her safetie, but she is farre enough from me, therefore thou sakest her in vaine at my hands, who would as readily deliuer her vnto thee, as thou couldest ake, so that I esteeme her not. But as for my selfe, it shall neuer be sayde, my minde would floupe to base submission, nor that a King yeldeo to a slave and base vassal as thou art. Doe thou thinke that a King all winde can

# Ornatus and Artesia.

can put on so degenerate a habite? no I tell thee, whatsoeuer thou art, I had rather by enforcement die, then by submission liue: but be thou aduised what thou doest, nor stay long before these walles, for there are so many whetting their swordes, and putting on Armour in my defence, as ere the mornings Sun arise, will scare thee from hence. Ornatus heart could not indure these braues, and being withall vexed for feare that Artesia should sustaine some iniurie, thought speedilie to worke reuenge. Which by Phylastes counsaile, hee remitted vntill it were night, that then vniawares they might by some meanes get entrance into the Castle, and so surprize them.

Ornatus thinking to walke alone by himselfe, to breathe forth in sighes some part of the feare that possesed his heart, and withall, determining to biewe the Castle, howe hee might with conuenience get into the same without destroying it, for that it belonged to his dearest beloued, hee espied the Posterne gate, whereat thrusting, it presently flew open, which way as yet, neyther Thæon nor any of his company had found. Ornatus heart was glad hee had found so good a means to accomplish his will, putting the same to againe, came to Phylastes and told him thereof. When both of them presently agreed to enter that way and surprize them: carrying a hundred of the best Souldiours secretly vnder the wall of that Posterne, and placing all the rest in the open biewe of the Castle, as if none of them had bene wanting.

Ornatus and Phylastes entered, and after them the rest followed, who passing along through the waste rooms, at last came to the place where they had left Artesia, but found her not, and such successe had they in their attempt, that Ornatus coming behind Thæon, smote him with his hand on the backe, before hee had any knowledge of his appoache. Thæon therewith startling, and looking backe, was amazed, but running forward, vze out his sword, crying: My friends saue and defende your selues: where-with those that were about him vze their swordes: To whom

Ornatus said in this manner.

Howe nowe blasping King? where are those mightie forces should

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should chase me hence? wil you yet yelde, or stand to the scall by right? I yelde (quoth Thæon,) but much against my will, (so) had friends dealt faithfully, I had not bene left in this misery. But since fortune so much fauoureth thee, as to make mee thy prisoner, ble me well for that I am a King, and to none but thy selfe am in thall. Well me (quoth Ornatus) what is become of Artesia, that not many dayes since I left in this place? I saue her not (quoth Thæon) no; know I where she is, onely I found certaine seruants in this place, whom I haue put to death, least they should betray my being here. Wyant quoth Ornatus, thinkest thou their death shall goe vnreruenged, couldest thou be so cruell as to murder those that were innocent? with whom I feare me, thou hast made away Artesia. Why what art thou (quoth Thæon?) that blest such vnderste wozds to a King? that art thy selfe not wozthle to speake to a King: and why makest thou such enguyle after Artesia, that so ought I knowe haue no interest in her? suppose I haue slaine her, that was the cause of all this woo, what canst thou challenge at my handes for her? it had bene good she had neuer bene bozne, for she onely hath caused the originall of these troubles. Art thou a King quoth Ornatus, and bearest so bracklyngly a minde, as to slander true vertue? No, thou art a villain, a murderer, a Traytour to this Land, an usurper of the Crowne, and a most wicked and cruell homicide: but for that thou wouldest knowe what I am, knowe that I haue moze interest to the Crowne then thou hast, my name Ornatus, and thy enemy, to whom by right that Crowne belongeth: which thou shalt no longer enioye. Therefore saie hee, such as are my friends lay holdes on this Trator. (He had no sooner spoken those wozds, but Thæons owne seruants were the first that apprehended him, being weary of his gouernement: and one amongst the rest, thinking that hee had commanded them to slaye him, and withall, hoping for some reward for that forward exployte, hauing his sword ready drawne, suddenly (whilest Ornatus did but turne backe to confer with Phylastes) thrust the same through Thæons bodie, that giuing a pittious grone, he gaue vp the ghost. Ornatus turning backe,

# Ornatus and Artesia.

backe, demanded who had done that dede, with that the murderer drew backe, fearing to come befoze him, until he was compelled. To whom Ornatus said, What art thou that hast done this dede, art thou not one of his seruants, hast not thou bene maintained by him, did hee not trust thee with his life, was he not thy king, then howe durst thou presume to strike thy maister, be ingratefull to him that gaue thee gifts, proue false to him that trusted thee, and slay thine annointed king? My Lord (quoth he) I did mistake your wozdes, and hope to preserve my owne life, make me to do that dede, which I thought would haue pleased you. I am not (quoth he) (so) he is dead, but for that thou slewest him, whom thou in all dutie oughtest to haue defended: for which thou shalt die a miserable death. When he commaunded that hee should be drawne in peeces with horses, which befoze he departed thence, was perfozmed.

## CHAP. XVII.

How *Ornatus* was chose King. How he departed vnkown in search of *Artesia*. How *Lenon* sought againe to betray him, & was disappointed. How he was banished. *Type* pardoned. And *Ornatus* and *Artesia* royally married.



The King dead, Ornatus with Phylastes, returned to the Court, where all the Peeres were assembled, who befoze his coming, had by a voluntarie messenger, vnderstood the manner of Thæons death, the care whereof was already past, for that scwe or none at all loued him: but now their care was whom to chuse as their King, but first they welcomed Ornatus, none of them all knowing him, nor once suspecting what he was, who now could find no further occasiō to cōceale himself, but humbling himself befoze Allinus, & saie, My renowned Lord, the cause I haue so long cencealed my self, hath bin feare of the kings crueltie, and Lenons enuie, who both wold haue indangered me, but now being voyd of that misdoubt, your

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poore sonne Ornatus, submitte himselfe, humbly crawling  
 pardon for my neglect of dutie. With that hee embraced his  
 head, and his father knowing him, in most loving wise embraced  
 him, shedding teares for joy of his safetie, whome he thought had  
 bene long since dead. Duke Ternus and the rest, reioiced to see  
 him, and with embraces exprest their joy, entering into admira-  
 tion of his honoured parts and noble chivalrie. Phylastes being  
 likewise known, was much commended, whom they deemed had  
 bene murdered in the prison by Lenon, so that hee could not be  
 round. Allinus beholding Ornatus, and with what valour he had  
 behaved himselfe, reioiced exceedingly, the Commons clapt their  
 hands for joy, and the Barres amongst themselves began to re-  
 late howe vertuously, valiantly, and prudently, hee had beha-  
 ved himselfe in all that he had undertaken. After many welcomes  
 past, Ternus craving audience stood up, uttering these speeches:  
 My Lordes, we need not now defer giving of Allinus his right,  
 because there is none to contradict what we establish: besides, we  
 being all now assembled together, & our late usurping king dead,  
 there can be no fitter time to chuse a new king, and such a one as  
 by right of blood, and by our generall consents may rule vs. Tha-  
 on you know was no way interested in the Crowne but by usur-  
 pation, and hath rooted out almost all that hee knew to have any  
 title or interest in our late kings blood: of which house Allinus is-  
 sue is the last, by marriage of the Ladie Aura, neere unto our late  
 king, therefore the right being in him, if there be any man in this  
 assembly that can contradict that which I have said, let him speak.  
 Which when he had said, he again sat downe. Upon his speeches  
 the Nobles conferred, the people consulted, and at last the common  
 souldiers cryed out, Let Ornatus be our king, Ornatus is our  
 king. The nobles likewise gave consent to that the multitude li-  
 ked, and Ornatus was chosen king, whom they would have crow-  
 ned: but at his desire they deferred the day of his Coronation for a  
 month. In the meane time, esteeming him as their king, and that  
 day with great royallie setting him in possession thereof, all busi-  
 nesse for that day being ended, the Armenians richly rewarded,  
 feasted,

## Ornatus and Artesia.

feasted, and with joy ready to returne. Allinus in quiet but for the  
 want of his Ladie, and all things in good order, Ornatus being as-  
 lone by himselfe endured much disquiet for Artesia, maruelling  
 what was become of her, sometimes thinking she was slaine by  
 Thæon, and then supposing she was escaped out at the posterne  
 gate which he found open, that in these contrarieties of doubts he  
 continued, sometimes despairing, and then again raising himselfe  
 with hope. After Artesia had rested her selfe, and received some  
 part of her sleape she had lost that night, though but with broken  
 slumbers, she began to declare to Adellena what miseries she had  
 endured, and troubles she had past since she was by Lenon carri-  
 ed from her house, how she met with Ornatus againe, and everie  
 thing that was befallne, with the cause of her flight at that instant.  
 But Adellena said she, I feare me I shall neuer see him againe,  
 for had he not bin takē, and his father overthrowen, Thæon could  
 not have had so much leisure as to come to surpris me there, but  
 the heauens granted me a fortunate escape. And if I could be so  
 happy as to heare that Ornatus were in safetie, though he had  
 not that successe his desires did aime at, my heart would bee at  
 some rest, which is now pinched with suspicious torment. His ad-  
 venturous valiant hart could not be withholde by any perswa-  
 sion to leaue to abide his father, but notwithstanding infinit perils  
 hung over his head, yet to shew the dutie of a loving son, and the  
 mind of a vertuous valiant gentleman, he would not desist to ha-  
 zard his person: which now I feare me is fallne into the hands of  
 his enemies. But yet Phylastes I hope will by his good & friendly  
 counsel be a meanes to keepe him from danger. Many other spee-  
 ches Artesia vsed: and Adellena vsed as many on the contrary  
 part, to perswade her that Ornatus was in safetie, the truth where-  
 of she told her, she should soon know: for (quoth she) I have sent one  
 of my servants to learne the truth of all that is happened, who I  
 know will shortly returne. Which fell out even as she had told, for  
 the servant returned, bringing newes of Lenons death, acted by  
 a strange knight, and how that Thæon was slayd, and being like-  
 wise by the strange knight surprisled in Arbastus Castle, was  
 slaine by one of his owne servants. Which

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Which night, was now knowne to be Ornatus, and was elected king by the Warres, but he had deferred his day of Coronation, by reason of some speciall griefe that troubled him. Artesias heart was rent with these newes, knowing the griefe Ornatus endured was for her absence, that presently she determined to send him word of her safetie: and wrote a Letter, the contents whereof were these.

**M**Y deare *Ornatus*, no newes could haue come more welcome to me then your safetie, and nothing more vnwelcome, then to heare of your heavinesse, which I would intreat you to cease, for that I am in safetie at *Adellenas* house, being by one of my seruants the same night the King tooke my Castle, at a posterne gate in safetie brought hither, where I trust ere long to see you: which wil replenish my soule with exceeding comfort, for on your safetie, my life and felicitie dependeth.

Yours for euer, *Artesia*.

Having wrote this Letter, she gave it to *Thristus*, willing him to deliver the same to *Ornatus* with all speed.

Desires do allot many to exceeding misfortunes, and some men are of that dishonorable and humany disposition, that they account all meanes to attaine their desires lawfull, not regarding the shame and peril wil ensue thereon, of which nature was *Lenon*, who being conuered from the Campe by his friends, was reconered, and kept in a secret place, least he might be knowne, having no other meanes but by absenting himself to save his life: whose supposed death, caused *Phaon*s flight to the Greene Forest, from whence likewise he was departed before *Lenon* could come to give him knowledge of his safetie, and knowing that it was then too late to salve those miseries, he did concealed himself, following *Ornatus* (though unknowne to him) with intent to murder him, if he could by any meanes take him at advantage. But he was still disappointed, and withall sawe the death of his father

# Ornatus and Artesia.

father done by his own seruant, still intermingling himself amongst the souldiers, that he was taken to be one of them, & neuer suspected. But *Ornatus* being returned to the Court, *Lenon* was then compelled to leaue to follow him, and harboured sometimes in one place, and sometimes in an other, hauing knowledge of *Artesias* absence, he could not tell whether she were alive or dead: but he thought she could not be, but rather by some meanes escaped. And euen when *Thristus* was newlie come out of *Adellenas* house, *Lenon* espied him, & knowing him to be one of *Artesias* seruants, he suspected his mistresse was there, to whom he came, saying: My friend well met, I take you to be one of *Artesias* seruants, vniclesse I be deceiued: which if you wil resolue me of, I will do a message to you, that I am willing to deliuer to her from her dearest friend *Ornatus*. Indeed (quoth *Thristus*) I serue *Artesia*, and am now going to *Ornatus* with a letter from *Artesia*, who is in safetie in *Adellenas* house. *Lenon* hearing his speech, being very determined what to do, drew out his dagger and suddenly stabbed him, casting his body into a pitte, and taking the letter from him, brake off the seale and read the contents, which when he had done, he beganne to studie which way to reuenge himselfe on *Ornatus*, and afterwarde to get *Artesia* into his possession, and for that he thought delay might hinder his intent, he first wrote a letter in *Artesias* name, the contents were these.

**O***Ornatus* my dearest friend, the newes of your happy victorie, & conquest of your enemies, is come to my knowledge, then which nothing could haue beene more welcome vnto me. Likewise I heare, that much heavinesse possesseth you for my absence, that am in safetie: and desire you to meete me to morrow night, and you shall finde me with *Adellena*, at the lodge in the Parke neere vnto my Castle: in the meane time, remitting all further report of my escape, & manifestation of my Loue, vntill the happy time I may meete you.

Yours in all Loue, *Artesia*.

When he had written this letter, and imitated therein *Artesias* own hand so nere, that it could hardly be discerned, he went to the Court, & behaued the matter so cunningly, that hee was no way suspected, but was admitted into *Phylastes* presence, to whom hee

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delivered the letter. For Ornatus himselfe being exceedingly troubled in his minde, had left the Court, with some three in his company, to go in search of Artesia, & left Phylastes in his chamber, and in his stead, to answer such as should come with any suites to him. Phylastes being taken of all, but of some certaine that attended him, received the letter, promising to meete Artesia there, at the same time appointed, giving the messenger a reward. Lenon being departed, went to a place where he found a certain kinsman of his named Lucertus, to whom he declared both what he was, and what meanes hee had wrought for his revenge on Ornatus, who without respect toynd hands with him, and promised with many oathes to expose his life in pursuite of revenge, who with Lenon included before Ornatus coming, to be in the lodge with a sufficient company to surpryse him, & worke the premeditated revenge. Lenon being assured of his aide, next determined to take Artesia from Adellenas house, and to bring her to Lucertus Castle, untill the time appointed staying with Lucertus, to see him depart with his ambush to the lodge, which he saw effectually performed. Phylastes presently upon the receipt of that letter, sent out a messenger to seek Ornatus, & to certifie him, that Artesia would meete him at the lodge in Adellenas that evening, & that he should find Phylastes there: who (being by Artesias messenger taken for himselfe) had appointed to be there, lest he should not conveniently be found. The messenger with great haste departed, & inquiring after foure pilgrims (for in that habit Ornatus & such as were with him were) by that time the day was to an end, the messenger found out Ornatus, to whom he declared what Phylastes had given him in charge, only mistaking the place, for whereas he should by his direction have said at the lodge, mistaking Phylastes words, he said at Adellenas house. Ornatus hearing that heavenly tidings, leapt for joy, presently halting towards Adellenas house, which was not far off. Lenon to further his attempt (which he thought he could not with violence execute: for he thought if he should carrie her away perforce in the day time, he should be presented) denied an answer of the letter, that he had take from Thristus, which he determined to deliver to Artesia, as if Ornatus, & confesse wherof were these.

**M**Y most deare and beloved Artesia, I have receyued the letter you sent me by your seruāt, whom I haue imployed

# Ornatus and Artesia.

ed about a matter of great importance, that none could so fitly execute as himselfe, which newes was most welcome to the comfort of my heart, that was almost overcome with dispaire of your safetie, wheron my chiefest felicitie depēdeth. Therefore omitting further recitall of my ioy for your safetie, which this paper cannot expresse, therefore I will meete you soone, where this my seruāt will bring you, whose fidelitie I assure you to be such, as that he will do nothing but what I haue given him in charge: vntil which time of meeting, I cease all further circumstance of speeches.

Yours, Ornatus.

With this letter Lenon went to Adellenas house, & knocking at the gate, was brought to her, to whom hee delivered the same, who reading the contents, & being before not well acquainted with Ornatus hand, nothing at all suspected the contrary, but both believed that it came from him, and determined to goe with the messenger to meet him: whilst she was preparing to go with Lenon, Adellenas maide came in, telling her, that there was another to speake with her from Ornatus: with that Lenon changed countenance, and Artesia willed her to bring him in. Ornatus beholding her, had thought to haue embraced her, & discovered himselfe, but seeing a stranger there, and a letter in her hand, he stood in a studie. Artesia noting well his countenance, thought it was Ornatus himselfe, but standing in a doubt thereof, said, I haue receyued this letter from Ornatus already, and therefore if you haue any further message from him tell it mee, for any newes from him shall be most welcome. Ornatus thought that it was sent by Phylastes, but not knowing the messenger, marvelled therat, saying: I cannot believe that it came from him, for while within this house, hee had not knowledge of your being here. With that Artesia gaue him the letter, willing him to read the same. Ornatus soone knew that it was inuented by some frecherie, and therefore said: I know this came not from Ornatus, for this is not his hand, nor hee that brought it any of his seruants, for himselfe sent mee before, appointing to be here within this house.

Lenon hearing his speeches, with himselfe a thousand myles off, tearing to be discouered, so that he could not tell how to excuse himselfe, nor by any colour auoyde that daunger. To whom Ornatus

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natus said: My friend, when did hee deliuer thee this letter? Yesterday (quoth he.) Thou thyself said Ornatus, for he hath not bene at the Court these thre daies. Lenon thinking with impudencie to outface, hauing no other meanes left, that was likely to helpe him, and therefore said: This letter came from Ornatus, and thou thyself in saying the contrary, being some villaine that art set to betray this Ladie, therefore (quoth he) speaking to Artesia, beloeue him not for he is come with some euill intent. With that Ornatus had those that were with him lay hands on him, who presently apprehended him, and pulling of his hat, & a subtle disguise that he wore, knewe him to be Lenon, at the first being halfe afraide to touch him, for that they would haue sworne he had bin dead. Ornatus seeing Artesia in an exceeding flight, discovered himselfe, and with great ioy embraced her, desiring her to feare nothing, Artesia knowing him, swone forgot her feare, embracing him w<sup>th</sup> exceeding ioye. To whom hee said: Feare him not my deare Artesia, for be it him selfe or his ghost, I care not, it shall goe hard, if hee nor we escape my handes. To whom he said:

Most discursiuous and cowardly Villaine, confest thou not be contented, to liue in quiet, hauing once escaped my furie, but that thou must by further complots seek to betray this Ladie, that neuer did inioine thee? How often hast thou interrupted her quiet, and from quietnesse brought her into misery? and knowing that she could not like thee, yet thou wert so impudent, as neuer to giue ouer thy sute: but to attaine thy desire, first depriuedst her of libertie, banishedst me in the disguise of Syluian, and soughtest to betray my Fathers life: & not satisfied with all these, like a cowardly miscreant, seekest by villanie to betray her: and notwithstanding thou hast beheld thy fathers wastfull downfall and meritorious punishment, thou seekest to betray this Ladies life, by some unknowne trecherie not yet reuealed. For all which, thou shalt suffer such punishment as I haue deuised, and haue power to execute. Lenon seeing himselfe discovered, grew desperate, and scozning to be so rebuked at his handes, whom he still esteemed his inferiour, but especially vexed, that it was hee that had so long hindered his Loue to Artesia, saide: Ornatus, I thinke thou hast either forgotten thy selfe, or else what I am, that at thy pleasure rebukest me in such vnchristlike and ill becoming termes. Am I not thy better, and one that

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not long since, might haue commanded thee, and is thy minde so much elenated & proud, that thou wilt not acknowledge it? Thou makest brags of thy victorie, when thou mayst rather with shame keepe silence, & with remorse, repent that thou hast sought the death of thy lawfull king, being thy selfe a traitor. As hee would haue spake more, Ornatus interrupted him, saying: Hold thy peace, & do not stir my mind to more sharp reuenge by thy replie, for I scozne to heare thee speake, therefore glue ouer, least I punish that tongue of thine for uttering such high wordes in defence of vice.

Since (quoth Lenon) thou wilt not heare me speak in defence of my selfe, let me be conueyed from thy presence, for thy sight is as odious vnto mee, as mine to thee. Whilest they continued in Adellenas house, a messenger came running in breathlesse, uttering these speches: Behold most worthy Ornatus, I bring a message of much woe and heauie import: yesterday there was a messenger came to the court, that brought a letter in Artesias name to Phylastes, as supposing him to be your selfe, wherein she requested you to meete her this night at the Lodge in her Parke. Phylastes, who presently sent out a messenger to giue you knowledge thereof, not hearing of his returne, went himselfe with some twentie in his company, to the place appointed, and entring, hee found not Artesia there, but a crew of Rebels, amongst whom Lucertus was chiefe, who all at once set vpon him and his followers, taking him for your selfe, hauing so many about the small number that were with him, and himselfe not able to withstand such a multitude, had receiued many grievous wounds, & had bin surely slaine, but that the heauens sent them this ayde: It fortuned that day, that Duke Ternus was going from the Court to his owne house, who by great fortune hearing the noise, with his men halted thitherwards, & hauing knowledge of what was done, most valiantly both himselfe & his men set vpon Lucertus, whom they soon vanquished, hauing first slaine manie of his complices, and him hath he carried prisoner, with the rest of such as were aliue vnto the Court, & with them Phylastes in great daunger of death. Ornatus heart was exceedingly vexed to heare of his vnto friends Phylastes hurt, but especially, to thinke that hee had not before attached Lucertus, which he was once in minde to haue done, which would haue

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presented all these mischiefs. The night now being come, Ornatus caused Lenon to be bound hand and foot, and put into a strong place of the house, to some to watch him, least he should doe himselfe violence: himselfe with Artesia spending that evening in many speeches, relating the manner of all these misfortunes, but especially comfortling themselves in each others love, with Adellena, calling to remembrance the whole manner of their troubles onely procured by Lenon, which sadde relations made the remning of their Love more pleasant and delectable. Early the next morning, Ornatus putting himselfe in his Walmeres robes, and covering Artesias face with a vail, & carrying Lenon with them bound, departed towards the Court. The next morning the Peeres of the Land being still there, assembled themselves, amongst whom was Allinus, that likewise had found his Ladie, who hearing of his happie successe against Thaxon, was that morning newly arrived at the Court, and by him entertained with exceeding joy.

By that time they were assembled, & had called Lucertus before them, Ornatus with his companie, were likewise come, though unknowne and standing by, heard Lucertus confesse that Lenon had instigated him to worke that reuenge against Ornatus, himselfe being likewise gone to betray Artesia. The whole assembly marvelled when they heard him say that Lenon perswaded him to it, that Allinus stood up, saying: Is not he dead, then how can this be? Lenon (quoth Lucertus is not dead) with that Ornatus stopping in, thrusting Lenon before him, said: Here is the man that hath procured him to all this mischiefe. The Nobles beholding him, were amazed at his sight, but being assured it was he, by the perfect knowlege they had of him, Ternus said: Lenon, I had alwaies thought thou hadst borne the mind of a Gentleman, but now I finde the contrary in thee, and that in the most shameful degree. What furie led thee to such mischeuous attempts, to hire Lucertus to slay Ornatus, which he hath almost perfozmed? and thy selfe to seeke the death or miserie of that vertuous Ladie, that hath already endured too much wrong by thy folly? Allinus had not yet heard of Ornatus hurt, nor any knew the contrarie but that Phylastes was he, for he according to the minde of a most vertuous and constant friend, still concealed himselfe. For the Lady Aura had yet seene her sonne, whom she had but heard of, that Al-

linus

# Ornatus and Artesia.

linus said: Is my son Ornatus almost slaine? & trayterous billaine. with that Aura likewise began to make exceeding lamentation: which Ornatus was not able to behold, and therfore pulling off his disguised habit humbly reuerenced himselfe before her upon his knee both his Parents knew him, and with exceeding joy embraced him shewing abundance of teares for his safetie. With that, Duke Ternus and all the rest came to him, vsing him with such behauiour as belonged to him they had chosen King, seating him in an Imperiall chaire. He being set thus, said: My Noble Lords, I thank you for intituling mee with this exceeding honour: therfore my desire is, since you haue elected mee of your free and bounteous hearts to be your King, let mee this day and instantlie, be installed with possession of the Wyademe, for that I haue now no further cause of care to cause me defer the same: & likewise, that I may giue iudgement against these most wicked conspirators. The Nobles with loyal hearts gave consent, and immediately crowned him, with banded knees doing him reuerence: which done, Ornatus rising from his Imperiall seate, came to Artesia, taking her by the hand, and leading her vpp the throne, seated her in the chaire, placing the Crowne vppon her head, saying: My Lords, I pray likewise be contented wth that I do, & as you haue elected mee King, make this your Queene: she vould haue off the vail from Artesias face, and her cleare beautie appeared to the admiration of all, who beholding, in humble sort did her reuerence, making exceeding shoute for joy, their hearts being all exceedingly glad of her safetie.

When this was done, she came downe and embraced them, yeelding them many thanks, who all shewed such exceeding kinde- nesse, as exprest their hartie goodwill, and reioyced both her & Ornatus to behold: especially Aura and Turon duchesse, with many embracings which they thought they could not sufficiently expresse, reioyced to see her in that safety. By that time Ornatus was againe seated & Artesia by him, Phylastes hearing of Ornatus returne being though grauously wounded, yet in no great danger of death, as well as he could came into the presence, where beholding Ornatus and Artesia crowned, knaled down before them, his heart conceiuing exceeding joy, to behold that heavenly sight. Whom Ornatus kindly embraced, reioycing to see him in that good estate: after Artesias salutation, willing him to sit down amongst them.

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them. When Ornat's first commanding Floretus to be sent for out of prison, thus said: Now there resteth nothing but to give sentence against these, that by conspiracies have bene murderers, which fact is so heinous, that it maketh them both odious to God and man, in which offence, both thou Lerion, Lucertus, & Tyrcus are guilty: therefore Lerion (quoth he) first declare what moved thee from time to time, to commit so many and grievous actions thou hast done. Lerion's heart was rend with vexation to see him crowned, and Artelia chosen his Queen, that hanging down his head, he would not speak: but Lucertus humbling himself upon his knee, asked pardon. By this time Floretus was brought in, looking with such a meger and pale countenance, by reason of his long imprisonment, that Artelia wept to behold him, and could not chuse but run and embrace him, upon her knee intreating Ornat to pardon the offence he had committed, which was against none but her self. Ornat seeing her kneele, suddenly raight her up, embracing Floretus, & commanding his vassals to be un'wed, withall saying: I not only doe willing hart pardon you, but also give unto you for ever, all those possessions y belonged unto your brother Arbassus. Floretus before expecting nothing but death, which was turned to such exceeding joy, humbly upon his knee yielded many thanks.

When Ornat's seating himselfe againe, said: Because this day is the first of our reigne, which should begin with mercie, and not with rigor, there shall not a drop of blood by our command be spilt: and therefore Lerion, though thou hast deserved no favour, but a most miserable death, we pardon thee. And Lucertus, commanding thee upon paine of death, within tenne daies to depart this land, for y we banish thee hence for ever: which some is for mercie, and for thy fact. For thee Lerion, we onely banish thee this Court, where on paine of death let not thy wife, least they life ransom thy presumption. This said, taking Artelia by the hand, he was by the Drums with a noyse of trumpets and exceeding joy, conducted to a Chappell, and in royall sort that day married to Artelia, and from thence to an Emperiall feast, spending all that day in great pleasure, and at night taking lawfull delight in her love, both then and during the time of both their lives, living in most pleasant loving, and vertuous sort, that most places of the world were filled with the report of their vertuous life, and peaceable government.

FINIS.